



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



Wake
County
Human
Services

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wake County Pre-Kindergarten Program Application Process for 2012

Essential pre-kindergarten programming provides quality early education experiences for children who will be 4-years-old between Sept. 1, 2011 and Aug. 31, 2012.

RALEIGH (Jan. 31, 2012) – [Wake County SmartStart](http://www.wakesmartstart.org) is now accepting the universal application for local pre-kindergarten (pre-k) programs including Wake County Pre-K, Title I and Head Start. These programs are publicly funded and are designed to better prepare children for school by using a curriculum that enhances children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual well-being. Programs are community-based, voluntary and target children's success in school.

To apply for pre-k programs in Wake County for 2012-2013, the child must be 4-years-old on or before August 31, 2012. Additionally, applications must be completed by the child's parent or guardian and received by April 16, 2012. The following items are required for a complete application:

- Fully completed application ([located online at www.wakesmartstart.org](http://www.wakesmartstart.org))
- Child's birth certificate
- Proof of all income (two consecutive check stubs for each employed parent/guardian, child support, retirement, worker's compensation, statement from supervisor, 2011 IRS 1040, unemployment, social security)
- Proof of residence (light/water bill, lease agreement or notarized statement from homeowner)
- Verification of child's diagnosed special needs if applicable

Please note that pre-k placements are made based on certain factors, not on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pre-k classrooms are located in Wake County public schools, Head Start and in high quality child care facilities.

To assist families with the application process, Wake County SmartStart and its community partners are holding application events around Wake County beginning in Feb. For a complete list of those application events, click here for [English](#) or [Spanish](#). For general information about Wake County Pre-K, families can visit the Wake County SmartStart Web site at www.wakesmartstart.org or call the Wake County SmartStart Pre-K information line at 919-723-9298 for English or 919-723-9299 for Spanish.

As a local partnership with the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Wake County SmartStart partners with national, state and local agencies, as well as other nonprofits that serve Wake County children, ages birth to 5, and their families through vital human service programs. Wake County SmartStart works to improve the quality, accessibility and affordability of child care settings, identify and connect children to early intervention and other preventive health services and support families in a variety of ways. The organization also promotes, supports, and advocates for the needs of young children living in Wake County. To obtain more information on Wake County SmartStart's allocation of state funds and its activities with local partner agencies, visit www.wakesmartstart.org.

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