



NC Pre-Kindergarten Application Instructions 2023-2024

North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) is a high-quality, **FREE*** educational program designed to enhance school readiness and prepare four-year-olds for Kindergarten. *NC Pre-K* classrooms typically operate on the local school system calendar. *The only costs that may be associated with the NC Pre-K program would be a fee to cover the partial/full costs of meals when families do not qualify for free/reduced-priced meals.

Transportation is not provided by NC Pre-K.

Many factors are considered when determining eligibility. Your child must be **4 years old on or before August 31, 2023** in order to be considered. In addition to your child's age, a high priority is placed on serving children who are "at-risk", such as low income or limited English proficiency. Information collected with your child's application will help determine your child's eligibility and potential placement in the program.

Applications will be accepted beginning February 6, 2023 through April 28, 2023. Please pre-register online at www.rowan-smartstart.org. Applications received after the deadline may be considered only when there are openings.

Please mail or drop off a **completed, original** application along with the following documents:

- Parent/Guardian photo ID
- A copy of your child's birth certificate
- Income verification (one month's worth of most recent check stubs). Individuals self-employed may provide 2022 Income Tax Return. Please provide other income verification if applicable: Unemployment benefits, Child Support, Work First, or SSI.
- If parent/caregiver is attending school, provide most recent college schedule
- Proof of street address (utility bill, power bill, cable bill, telephone bill, or lease **ONLY**, we cannot accept a cell phone bill)
- Proof of the following if any of these apply
 - a. Military documentation
 - b. Letter from the doctor or current health assessment indicating the child has a chronic health condition
 - c. IEP documentation
 - d. Letter from doctor or current health assessment indicating the child has a developmental need
 - e. Documentation regarding custody or guardianship of the child if applicable

If accepted, your child's assigned school will require your child's current (dated after 8-2022) shot record, Children's Medical Report form (including a vision & hearing screening) & Dental Assessment form. *These will be due within 30 days from the first day of school.

Incomplete applications will NOT be considered.

Child placement will begin in July. You will be notified by e-mail/mail if your child has been accepted into the program. This program is based on the limited availability of State funding as well as classroom availability. If you have questions, please call Smart Start Rowan at 704-630-9085.