



NC Pre-Kindergarten Application Instructions 2025-2026

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, 2025**, 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 ONLINE ONLY beginning January 10, 2025 through April 11, 2025.

Applications received after the deadline may be considered only when there are openings.

Please submit a **completed**, online application and upload 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 2023/2024 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/enrollment documents that includes your name.
- ☐ Proof of street address (utility bill, power bill, cable bill, telephone bill, or lease **ONLY**, we cannot accept a cell phone bill or car registration).
- ☐ 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 or a developmental need/delay,
 - c. IEP or private therapy documentation,
 - d. Documentation regarding custody or guardianship of the child if applicable,
 - e. Documentation of the family receiving public assistance, refugee services, in foster care, or experiencing homelessness.

If accepted, your child's assigned school will require your child's current (dated after 8-2024) 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 processed.

Need help completing an application? Call us at 704-630-9085!

Smart Start Rowan, 1329 Jake Alexander Blvd. S, Salisbury, NC 28146

Child placement will begin in July. You will be notified by e-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.