Northside Independent School District
Full Day Pre-K Program
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

CONTACT INFORMATION
Please contact our District Hotline at 210-397-8745 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or visit our website @ https://nisd.net/prekinder. Email is NISDPK_Information@nisd.net

A. ELIGIBILITY
1. What are the eligibility requirements to enroll in NISD’s Pre-K program?
ANSWER: Some students may qualify for free programing and others may wish to apply for tuition-based programing.

Qualifying Students:
● 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2019 (cannot already be 5 years old, and is not provided to 3-year-old students)
● Educationally Disadvantaged (Income Eligible) or
● Limited English Speaker or
● Homeless or
● Under the care of DPS/ Foster Care or
● The child of an active duty member of the US Armed Forces or
● The child of a family member that was killed or injured during active military duty or
● Is the child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award

Tuition Based:
■ 4 years old on or before September 1, 2019 (cannot already be 5 years old, and is not provided to 3-year-old students)
■ Resident of Northside ISD
■ Complete application before the deadline for Priority Consideration in the Lottery
■ Payment of registration fee
■ Maintain current registration paperwork with the campus, including birth certificate, proof of address, immunization records, etc.
■ Selected in lottery to enroll

B. BENEFITS AND CLASS SIZES
2. What are the benefits of the full day Pre-K program?
ANSWER: It is a high quality program with a certified teacher and an Instructional Assistant in each classroom. Our staff receives professional development in early literacy and the ten domains per the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Pre-K Guidelines.

3. What type of curriculum will be provided?
ANSWER: The Curriculum and Instruction Department will provide curriculum documents that highlight the core domains (Emergent Literacy, Math, Science, & Social Studies) for high-quality Pre-Kindergarten based on the Texas Education Agency Pre-K guidelines.
The program instructional framework incorporates the Texas Education Agency's Pre-K curriculum guidelines including social/emotional development, language & communication, emergent literacy reading, emergent literacy writing, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, physical development, and technology applications.
4. What is the ratio of adults to children in the classroom?  
ANSWER: 1:11

5. How many students will be in the classroom?  
ANSWER: 22 students

C. HOURS/CALENDAR/DAILY ROUTINE/TRANSPORTATION

6. What are the daily hours of the Pre-K program?  
ANSWER: The hours are 7:45 a.m. -- 2:55 p.m.

7. How late can I pick up my child?  
ANSWER: If your child is not enrolled in extended after-school care, you will need to pick up your child at regular dismissal time which is 2:55 p.m. If your child is enrolled in Learning Tree, all sites provide care until 6:30 p.m. beginning in 2019-2020.

8. Does the full day Pre-K program follow the standard NISD school calendar?  
ANSWER: Yes

9. Where can I find the 2019-20 school calendar?  
ANSWER: On Northside ISD’s website at https://nisd.net/schools/calendars

10. What is the daily routine of the Pre-K classrooms?  
ANSWER: The schedule includes time for math, literacy, science, social studies, recess, music & movement, snack, and rest time.

11. Will the children have an opportunity to nap every day?  
ANSWER: Yes, the children will have a daily rest time for up to 1 hour and 15 minutes.

12. Will transportation be provided for my Pre-K child if my child attends a campus within my zoned boundary or not?  
ANSWER: Any enrolled student meeting the eligibility requirements for transportation will receive bus service.  
https://nisd.net/boundaries-and-buses

13. How can I find out what time the bus will be picking up and dropping off my child?  
ANSWER: Transportation Department will make those plans and contact families as the school year approaches.

D. COSTS - TUITION AND MEALS

14. How much is the tuition?  
ANSWER: Annual tuition of $5,550 divided into 10 equal payments of $555, plus a $125 non-refundable registration fee. A reduced rate of $3,550, plus a $75 non-refundable registration fee, will be available for identified families, based on their income.

Will extended after school care be available for full day Pre-K students?  
After school care is available to those students that qualify for Pre-K and available at a cost for those that pay tuition through NISD’s Learning Tree program. If your child is enrolled in Learning Tree, all sites provide care until 6:30 p.m. starting in 2019-2020.  
https://nisd.net/learning-tree/
15. Are there late fees for late payment and/or late pick up?
ANSWER: There is a fee for late pick up from Learning Tree. Refer to the Learning Tree website for information at https://nisd.net/learning-tree/. A late fee for tuition-based students will be determined at a later time.

16. Are meals and snacks provided? If so, what is the cost?
ANSWER: Breakfast and lunch meals are provided at no cost to enrolled Pre-K students. Menus and general information can be found on the NISD Child Nutrition site at https://nisd.net/child-nutrition.

17. What other costs can parents expect to pay?
ANSWER: School supply lists will be available for families to purchase items.

18. How do I qualify my child for free, full-day Pre-K?
ANSWER: For those that feel they will qualify for Pre-K, you may pre-register online. Your home campus will contact you to set up an appointment to qualify a student in the Pre-K program. Appointments to qualify will begin on April 1 and testing for Language begins on May 1. If a student needs to be tested for language, they can contact the Student Placement Center (SPC) to schedule an appointment now by calling 210-397-8158.

Tuition-based students will go through an application process first then once accepted, will be contacted to register online. Application for priority consideration in the lottery will open on March 18 and run through April 15.

19. Can 3-year-olds qualify for free, full-day Pre-K?
ANSWER: NISD does not offer a full day Pre-K program for 3 year olds. NISD does offer a program for 3 year olds that is open for children of employees only.

E. LOCATIONS
20. Which campuses are offering full-day Pre-K in NISD?
Campuses in Bold are PK4SA Grant locations and will not available for tuition-based students

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<tr>
<th>Adams Hill</th>
<th>Colonies North</th>
<th>Howsman</th>
<th>McDermott</th>
<th>Oak Hills Terrace</th>
<th>Cody</th>
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<td>Allen</td>
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<td>Mary Hull</td>
<td>Mead</td>
<td>Passmore</td>
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<td>Boone</td>
<td>Fisher</td>
<td>Leon Valley</td>
<td>Meadow Village</td>
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21. May I apply for my child to attend a campus outside of my zoned elementary school? Such as close to my workplace?  
**Answer:** Tuition-based Pre-K families may request a Pre-K campus during the application process. Approval is based on available space at designated campuses.

22. Where can I find the boundaries and bus information for my zoned elementary school?  
**Answer:** Bus and boundaries information can be found on our district website. [https://nisd.net/boundaries-and-buses](https://nisd.net/boundaries-and-buses)

23. Can I choose to pay for two half day programs (AM/PM) at my neighborhood school that is not currently listed as having a full day Pre-K program?  
**Answer:** No, that is not an option at this time.

24. If my area school provides only half day program/s, can I request a transfer to a full day campus program? Will this be parental choice or considered an administrative transfer?  
**Answer:** No, not in this initial year.

**F. DUAL LANGUAGE, BILINGUAL AND ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAMS**

25. Are all campuses offering full day bilingual/English as a Second Language (ESL) programs for Pre-K students?  
**Answer:** Not every campus is a Bilingual campus or ESL campus. The following list identifies campuses that offer bilingual and ESL services:
- **Bilingual:** Allen, Burke, Esparza, Fisher, Glenn, Howsman, Mary Hull, Leon Valley, Martin, Passmore, Westwood Terrace
- **ESL:** Adams Hill, Colonies North, Thornton
- **Bilingual & ESL:** Cable, Glenoaks, McDermott, Mead, Nichols, Villarreal

26. May I enroll my Pre-K student in a Pre-K dual language program?  
**Answer:** At this time we do not offer dual language at the Pre-K level.

**G. APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION PROCESSES AND NOTIFICATION TIMELINE**

27. Where do I go to apply for the Pre-K program?  
**Answer:** For those that feel they will qualify for Pre-K, you may pre-register online. Your home campus will contact you to set up an appointment to qualify a student in the Pre-K program. Appointments to qualify will begin on April 1st and testing for Language begins on May 1. If student needs to be tested for language they can contact Student Placement Center (SPC) for an appointment now by calling 210-397-8158. Tuition-based students will go through an application process first. Once accepted, families will be contacted to register online. Application for Priority Consideration in the lottery will open on March 18 and run through April 15.

28. What is the deadline to apply for the tuition-based Pre-K program?  
**Answer:** March 18 through April 15 is the timeline for priority lottery consideration. An online application system will be available on our Pre-K website beginning March 18. Applications after April 15 may be available based on space and will be determined after April 15.

29. When will I receive notification of my child’s tuition-based Pre-K enrollment?  
**Answer:** We are expecting to notify parents in early May.
30. Once notified, what is the deadline to register for the Pre-K program? Where do I go to register?
ANSWER: For tuition-based, the formal online registration piece must be completed within a week of acceptance on our online registration system. For those that qualify for Pre-K, their registration will be processed as soon as they qualify.

31. Is enrollment selection based on first-come first-served or lottery?
ANSWER: Northside will serve all qualifying 4 year olds. There will be a lottery process for tuition-based students.

32. Will registration be closed at a certain time of the year? Is registration year-round?
ANSWER: There will be a lottery process for tuition-based students due to limited space availability. For those students that qualify, it is a year round process as long as students meet the birthday qualifications.

33. How are tuition-based slots offered to families?
ANSWER: Lottery

34. If I have twins, is it possible only one child will not be selected for the tuition-based Pre-K program?
ANSWER: Slots will be offered via a lottery system.

35. How many students will be selected to enroll in the Pre-K program? Is it on a limited basis?
ANSWER: We will serve all qualifying 4 year olds in our district. Tuition-based slots have been determined based on limited space availability. At present time, we have 250 designated slots for tuition-based students.