LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Levittown Memorial Education Center
150 Abbey Lane
Levittown, New York 11756

Success For Every Student

Central Registration
516-434-7058

FAQ about Levittown Public Schools UPK Program

Q: **What is UPK?**
A: In New York State, UPK is a State and federally funded prekindergarten program offered to families free of charge. The only eligibility requirement for UPK in New York State is a child's residency and age. UPK is not an entitlement in New York State and not all families currently have access to UPK. In districts where UPK is available, entry is based on a lottery system and not all families who register are guaranteed a spot.

Q: Who is eligible to register for UPK?
A: Section 3602-e of Education Law defines an "eligible child" as a resident child who is four years old on or before December 1st of the school year in which they are enrolled or who will otherwise be first eligible to enter public school kindergarten the following school year. **Cut-off for the 2027-2028 school year is December 1, 2027**.

Q: How do I apply?
A: To apply, you need to complete the UPK Registration Application on our district website. This will be available starting October 19, 2026, and must be submitted electronically by November 25, 2026. After you submit the form, you will get a confirmation email. If you don't receive this email within a week, please call our office at (516) 434-7058.

Q: Is UPK free?
A: Yes. However, New York State UPK does not guarantee that every child will have access. Not all families who register for UPK are guaranteed a spot.

Q: Is UPK participation mandatory?
A: No. UPK is a voluntary program for both districts and children. Parents and/or caregivers may choose, but are not required, to enroll their child(ren) in a UPK program. However, once enrolled, the school district's attendance policy must be applied.

Q: How will I know if my child has been selected?
A: A lottery will take place virtually on January 13, 2027. Information regarding the drawing will be sent as it gets closer. Parents of children selected for the program will be notified in writing within one week of the drawing.

Q: Will my child be required to be screened prior to starting UPK?
A: Yes. Commissioner's Regulations §117.1 requires that all students in prekindergarten through grade 12 be screened upon entry to the school district to determine individual student needs.

Q: What is the UPK schedule?
A: The program follows the Levittown School District calendar. Students are in class for five (5) hours a day, Monday – Friday.

Q: Where is the UPK program housed?
A: The program is administered by the Levittown School District but is offered at Tender Garden in St. Bernard's for the 2027-2028 school year.

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Q: Does my child need immunizations?
A: All students must submit immunizations at time of registration. All students **must** be fully immunized by the start of school. If not, your placement in the UPK program will be at jeopardy.

Q: What if there is a custody situation regarding my child?
A: You must provide court documentation at time of registration and copies will be forwarded to the program provider. In addition, you must notify the provider. We recommend that you follow up with the provider to be sure that all the proper safeguards are in place.

Q: What if my child has a severe allergy or other serious medical condition?
A: A health form must be filled out upon registration. Any serious medical condition must also be reported directly to the program provider.

Q: What kind of curriculum is taught in the program?
A: All providers that are contracted by the Levittown School District must follow the Levittown UPK curriculum.

Q: Does every provider have to run identical programs?
A: Specific teachers, lessons and special events will vary by location; however any provider that the Levittown Board of Education chooses to use must adhere to the curriculum adopted by the Levittown School District.

Q: Is transportation available?
A: No.

Q: Can a parent pay for an eligible child to attend additional hours in the program?
A: All questions regarding additional hours should be addressed with the provider.

Q: What is the lottery process for twins/triplets?
A: If there are sets of twins and/or triplets they will complete one interest form for each child. For the lottery drawing they will have one card with all names on it , if that card is selected both twins and/or all the triplets will be in the program.

Q: What if I have a problem with the provider?
A: All issues regarding the program must first be handled directly through the provider. If a satisfactory resolution is not obtained, please contact Central Registration at Levittown Memorial Education Center.

Q: If I decide I do not want to register my child for UPK because they are not ready, can I enroll them in UPK the following year?
A: No. According to Section 3602-e of Education Law, a child is eligible for UPK when they are four years of age on or before December 1st of the school year in which they are enrolled or will otherwise be first eligible to enter public school kindergarten the following school year. Therefore, a child would only be eligible for UPK for one year

Q: If I don't think my child is ready for kindergarten, can I hold them back in UPK?
A: No. According to Section 3602-e of Education Law, a child is eligible for UPK when they are four years of age on or before December 1st of the school year in which they are enrolled or who will otherwise be first eligible to enter public school kindergarten commencing with the following school year. Therefore, a child would only be eligible for UPK for one year.

Q: Where can I find out additional information about Universal Prekindergarten?
A: You can go to the NYS Department of Education's website on Statewide Prekindergarten Programs at https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/early-learning/family-faqs.pdf

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