



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 31, 2025

Dear Families,

This letter is to inform you of New Haven Public School's process regarding Kindergarten Registration and Eligibility for the 2025-2026 school year.

Public Act 23-208 states, "public schools shall be open to all children five years of age and over who reach age five by September first of each year." Effective fall of the 2024-2025 school year, a child should attain their fifth birthday on or before September 1 to enroll in school.

- If your child turns 5 on or before September 1, 2025, they are eligible to register for Kindergarten
- If your child turns 5 after September 1, 2025, and **IS** currently enrolled in an NHPS PreK 4 Program, they will automatically move on to Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- If your child is **NOT** enrolled in a New Haven Public Schools PreK program and turns 5 after September 1, 2025 and before January 1, 2026 and you believe they are developmentally prepared for Kindergarten you **must** follow these steps for a waiver process below:
 1. Families must submit a formal letter requesting a waiver and send a signed copy along with their child's registration. Please use the letter template linked here:
[Kindergarten Parent/Guardian Waiver Request Letter Template English](#)
[Kindergarten Parent/Guardian Waiver Request Letter Template Spanish](#)
 2. The following documents **MUST** be submitted with the child's registration application to be eligible for a waiver:
 - a. Child's Birth Certificate
 - b. Proof of Address
 - c. A current Health Physical (must be submitted through Veoci)
 3. Upon registration, families must submit an initial developmental screener within 5 days of completing the child's application. The developmental questionnaire can be filled out by the family and/or the child's child care provider. Links to the questionnaires can be found below.
[Kindergarten Developmental Questionnaire English](#)
[Kindergarten Developmental Questionnaire Spanish](#)

The Early Childhood Coaches will review application materials and completed family screener questionnaires as they come in and submit recommendations for Early Childhood Director's final approval. All waivers must be submitted before April 30, 2025 in order for a child to be eligible. Any waivers submitted after April 30, 2025 **will not** be considered. You will hear back from a member of the Early Childhood team within three business days after submission.

Regarding the age requirements for incoming PreK3 and PreK4 students there is no waiver process for these grades and the birthdate requirements are as follows:

- If your child turns 4 on or before September 1, they are eligible to enter PreK4
- If your child turns 4 after September 1, they are NOT eligible to enter PreK4
- If your child turns 3 on or before September 1, they are eligible to enter PreK3
- If your child turns 3 after September 1, they are NOT eligible to enter PreK3



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If you have any questions please contact your child's school.

If your child is not currently a student in the district you may call 475-220-1430 or email choiceenrollment@new-haven.k12.ct.us for assistance.

Madeline Negrón, PhD
Superintendent

[State of CT - Kindergarten Age Resource](#)