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| E – Special Programs: Pre-Kindergarten | **EHBG** |
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| Pre-Kindergarten - 2024 |

South San Antonio ISD offers tuition-free Pre-Kindergarten and Head Start for 3- and 4-year-olds (must be 3 or 4 by September 1st) to provide developmentally appropriate preschool experiences children.

Our mission is to prepare young children to succeed in school and life beyond school by delivering services to children and families in core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being while engaging parents as partners every step of the way.

Eligibility

A child is eligible for enrollment in free prekindergarten if the child is at least three years of age and:

1. Is unable to speak and comprehend the English language;
2. Is educationally disadvantaged;
3. Is homeless [see FD] regardless of the residence of the child, of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control;
4. Is the child of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority;
5. Is the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty;
6. Is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing under Family Code 262.201 or foster care in another state or territory, if the child resides in Texas; or
7. Is the child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award as:
	1. A peace officer under Government Code 3106.002;
	2. A firefighter under Government Code 3106.003; or
	3. An emergency medical first responder under Government Code 3106.004.

A child who is eligible for enrollment for free prekindergarten at the age of three and enrolls in prekindergarten class at the age of three remains eligible for enrollment in a prekindergarten class for the following school year.

A child who is eligible for enrollment under item 4 or 5 above remains eligible if the child's parent leaves the armed forces, or is no longer on active duty, after the child begins the prekindergarten class. Education Code 29.153(a)–(b), (e-1), (f)

**Head Start**

South San Antonio ISD's Head Start program plays a vital role in fostering the health and safety of children by helping them establish lifelong healthy habits. We know that healthy students are better learners, and academic success brings lifelong health benefits. Our dedicated Head Start staff ensures that children are up-to-date on immunizations and follow their state’s Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) schedule. They also teach healthy eating habits and promote the physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and their families. Additionally, our staff works tirelessly to help families establish a medical and dental home or connect with affordable, no-cost community resources to ensure ongoing access to quality health care.

**Important Links:**

**Pre-Kindergarten**

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/early-childhood-education/texas-prekindergarten-guidelines>

**Head Start**

<https://www.southsanisd.net/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=11318&dataid=20444&FileName=2022-2023%20Revised%20Parent%20Handbook.pdf>

<https://www.southsanisd.net/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=11318&dataid=20445&FileName=2022-2023%20Revised%20Parent%20Handbook%20Spanish.pdf>