



Frequently Asked Questions Seaford Union Free School District Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Program



1. What is the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Program?

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) is a state-funded preschool program that is offered at no cost to families. According to Commissioner's Regulations 151-1.2(c), an eligible child is one who lives within the school district, is four (4) years old by December 1st of the year they are enrolling.

2. Who is eligible for the Seaford School District UPK program?

To be eligible for the UPK program, the student must turn four (4) years old on or before December 1, 2026.

3. How do I enroll my child in the Seaford School District UPK program?

The selection for this program is lottery-based and requires the completion of an application. Applications for the lottery must be received by **4:00 p.m. on January 9, 2026**. Parents can make an appointment with Ms. Ana Scicutella by calling 516-592-4011 or by emailing ascicutella1@seaford.k12.ny.us.

4. What is the deadline for applying for the UPK program?

Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on January 9, 2026.

5. How many openings are there for the UPK program?

The district is likely to receive funding for 98 seats under the SUFDPK grant award. It is possible that additional seats will become available through State UPK Allocation Funds. If additional seats are allocated, we will select students from the waitlist based on their lottery placement.

6. Can all district 4-year olds attend our UPK program?

The district will have a randomized lottery for all applicants. The lottery will be conducted electronically by auditors from our internal auditing firm, Nawrocki Smith, LLP. The first 98 children, or the total number of children that equal available seats, will be randomly sorted and



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placed in one of the three UPK providers that the district has contracted with: Harmony Early Learning, Kiddie Junction Preschool, Learn and Grow Child Care or Maplewood School, pending availability. All families that have applied for the program will be given a randomized slot on the list. Anyone not placed in an open seat will be placed on a waiting list. If for any reason someone who is selected declines the seat, the next person on the waiting list will be notified. Families that apply for the program after January 9, 2026, at 4:00pm will be placed on the waiting list in the order in which they have submitted their application.

- 7. My child is already attending one of the childcare centers (Harmony Early Learning, Kiddie Junction Preschool, Learn and Grow Child Care, or Maplewood School). Can my child still attend the UPK program?**

The UPK application process includes a request that you rank the four centers in order of your preference to attend. When your application is selected in the lottery, if space is available at your preferred center, your child will be placed in your first preference. If your first preferred center is full, and space is available in your second preference, your child will be placed at that center. If the first and second preference centers are full, and space is available in your third preference, your child will be placed at that center. If the first, second, and third preference centers are full, your child will be placed at your fourth preference center. If you choose not to send your child to the center that is assigned then you will have declined enrollment in the UPK program.

- 8. I have twins and completed the Seaford UPK Lottery Application for each of them. If only one of them is randomly selected, will they both be given a spot?**

The lottery selection process does not give preference to families with twins, triplets, etc. Each child is entered as an individual student and will be selected at random. The selection of one twin or triplet has no effect on the selection number of any other siblings during the lottery selection process.

- 9. What is a typical day in the UPK program like?**

The daily UPK program is five (5) hours long. It will run for at least 180 days during the 2026-2027 school year and will follow the Seaford School District calendar, which will be published on our website. The program is non-sectarian, so there is no religious instruction. The specific daily



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schedule is at the discretion of each center. The school district has general oversight over the instructional program but does not dictate the instructional schedule or the specific instructional materials used. The curriculum will follow the New York State Education Department Pre-Kindergarten Early Learning Standards in accordance with the five (5) domains below. More information can be found on our website under Pre-Kindergarten Information or through this link:

[NYSED Pre-K Early Learning Standards](#)

- Domain 1: Approaches to Learning
- Domain 2: Physical Development and Health
- Domain 3: Social Emotional Learning
- Domain 4: Communication, Language and Literacy
- Domain 5: Cognition and Knowledge of the World (Math, Science, Social Studies, The Arts, Technology, Computer Science, and Digital Literacy):

10. What if I need my child in the program more than 5 hours a day?

The four centers may offer “wrap around” hours at an additional cost. Specific information about wrap around hours or additional hours is available from the centers and will not be provided by the District.

11. Is transportation provided as part of the UPK program?

No, families are responsible for transportation to and from the UPK program each day.

12. How do I indicate my choice to accept or decline an offer for a seat in the 2026-2027 UPK program?

If your child is offered a seat at one of our Community-Based Organizations based on their number in the lottery, you will receive an email with the placement and a required form to return to accept or decline the placement. If you are not offered a seat, you will be notified via email and we will indicate your position on the wait list.



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13. How do I get additional questions answered about the program?

Please call the Office of Curriculum and Assessment at 516-592-4007. We will make every effort to answer your questions promptly.