



## 2026-27 ECSD Pre-K Lottery Enrollment

All parents interested in the GA DECAL: Bright from the Start Pre-Kindergarten Lottery at Effingham County Schools are required to complete a pre-lottery process. Effingham County Schools uses an online registration system to accept applications. The online registration application must be submitted prior to making a required lottery appointment. All required supporting documents must be uploaded to the online application, or they must be brought to the lottery appointment.

Your child must be 4 years old on or before September 1 of the upcoming school year to be eligible for the Effingham County Schools Pre-K Program, as required by Bright from the Start. Only valid Effingham residents or full-time ECSD employees (Georgia residents only) are eligible for the Pre-K Lottery Drawing.

Please keep in mind that the lottery appointment date has no effect on your child's chances of being drawn in the lottery. All students with a completed registration packet for the Pre-K Lottery BEFORE the lottery drawing date below (including all required documents, and a lottery appointment completed before the deadline below) will have a chance of being drawn in the lottery.

### 2026-27 Pre-K Lottery Application and Registration Timeline

Lottery Application Window	Monday, <b>January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026</b> – 12:00PM Thursday, <b>April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026</b>
Lottery Appointment Window	Wednesday, <b>March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026</b> – Friday, <b>April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026</b>
Pre-K Lottery Drawing	Wednesday, <b>April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026</b>

### Pre-K Lottery Instructions

1 [Review the required Pre-K registration documents.](#)

2 [Complete an online application.](#)

**Be sure to upload all appropriate documentation to your online application. See document CR30 for more details on the required registration documents.** If you do not have internet access, or need assistance completing an online application, contact the Central Registration Center. You must apply BEFORE making a lottery appointment. If you are unable to upload documents directly to the application, you MUST bring the required documents with you to your Pre-K lottery appointment, or email [pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us](mailto:pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us) for assistance.

3 [Schedule your REQUIRED lottery appointment.](#)

Once your application has been submitted, you will receive a confirmation email that includes a link to schedule your lottery appointment. **The appointment will take place at Effingham County Board of Education (405 N Ash St Springfield, GA 31329) in the Auditorium (use BOE front main entrance). This is located directly across the street from the Central Registration Center.** If you have trouble scheduling a lottery appointment please email [pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us](mailto:pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us), or call (912) 754-2530.

*\*\* While you are not required to bring the child you are enrolling to the lottery appointment, you are welcome to do so. \*\**

**4 Immunization Form (GA DPH Form 3231)**

If your child's immunizations are not current or were last issued in another state, call to schedule an appointment with your child's healthcare provider or the [Effingham County Health Department](#). Be sure to call for immunization appointments at least 2-3 weeks in advance to ensure that your child's immunizations are received prior to your registration appointment. If your child turns 4 after March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 we will temporarily waive the immunization requirements until after your child has attained the age of 4. However, if your child turns 4 on or prior to March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 you will be required to submit a current immunization certificate as a condition of being included in the Pre-K lottery drawing.

**5 Ear, Eye, Dental, and Nutritional (EEDN) Form (GA DPH Form 3300)**

First-time Pre-K students must have an EEDN Form. You may choose to have your child's health care provider conduct this exam, or the exam may be completed at the [Effingham County Health Department](#). The Health Department will conduct the exams on 3-year-old children. However, many private physicians and dentists will not complete this exam until the child has turned 4 years of age. If you plan to use the Health Department, please go ahead and complete this step now. If you intend to use a private physician and your child turns 4 after March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 we will temporarily waive the requirement until after your child has attained the age of 4. However, if your child turns 4 on or prior to March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, you will be required to submit the EEDN Form as a condition of being included in the Pre-K lottery drawing.

*\*\* Many physicians will not complete the dental portion of the screening, requiring parents to also visit a dentist for that portion of the form. The Effingham County Health Department will conduct the entire exam. \*\**

**6 If Applicable: While completing your online application, please submit any healthcare action plans for your student(s). These can be uploaded under "Other Documents" section during the online application process.**

If your child has severe allergies, asthma, seizures, or diabetes, the applicable healthcare action plan must be completed by your child's physician and returned prior to the first day of school.

*\*\* If your child has any other serious medical condition which requires or may require treatment by a medical professional during school hours, please submit a specific action plan from your child's physician. \*\**

**7 Reminder: Be sure to gather and digitize ALL required registration documents for your application before applying!**

Your child's name will NOT be placed in the lottery drawing unless all registration requirements are met and all required documents have been received before the deadline! If you do not have all required documents uploaded to the online application after applying, you will receive an email containing a link to get back into your application and attach the required documents . If you have trouble accessing this link contact [pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us](mailto:pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us). If you do not upload all of the required documents before your lottery appointment, you must bring them with you for copies to be made.



# Pre-K Student Registration Required Documents

## 1. Proof of Student's Age Present **one** of the following.

- A certified copy of a birth certificate**
- \*A federal, state, county, or school document with date of birth.**

Examples include a certified, hospital-issued birth record or birth certificate; military ID; valid driver's license; passport; adoption record; religious record, signed by an authorized religious official; official school transcript; official immigration documentation; or affidavit of age sworn by parent/guardian or other authorized person accompanied by a certificate of age signed by a licensed, practicing physician which states the physician has examined the child and believes the age, as stated in the affidavit, is substantially correct. For a fee, parents can order a birth certificate for a child born in Georgia through the state's ROVER service. <http://gta.georgia.gov/rover>

## 2. Proof of Authorized Person to Enroll

The following persons are authorized to enroll students:

- Parent (natural or adoptive)**
- Legal guardian with guardianship paperwork**
- Foster parent appointed by a state agency**
- Sponsor for approved International Exchange Program**

The person authorized to enroll should present one of the following:

- Driver's license**
- State identification card**
- Passport**
- Other official photo identification**

## 3. Two Forms of Proof that the Family Lives in Effingham County Attendance Zone

A. **MUST PRESENT** Current electric, water, or gas bill.

### AND

**One of the following:** (*must Be most recent & include address*)

- Current Driver's License WITH matching Address on the Application**
- Current Residential Property Tax Statement or Bill**
- Current Lease/Rental Agreement WITH Current Rent Receipt**
- Current Home Purchase & Sales Agreement**
- Current Mortgage Statement**
- Current Homeowner/Renters Insurance**

B. **IF** the student's family is residing in the home or apartment of another individual, the following is necessary for enrollment:

- Notarized family residency affidavit** including:
  - Signature of the person with whom the family is living.  
**Both parties must sign the document in front of a notary employed by the Effingham County Schools. This document must be renewed annually.**
  - Signature of parent/legal guardian of the student.
  - The parent of the student(s) must produce one official business mail with the address listed on the residency affidavit.
- Two forms of Proof of Residency in the name of the person with whom the family is living.** See option A required documents above for acceptable documents.

### Pre-K Student Registration Requirement Notes

- Documents presented for residency verification must include the same address as the accompanying utility bill.
- Documents must be the most recent copy received.
- The bill must have the name and address of the enrolling parent/guardian or a Family Residency Affidavit is required.
- A cell phone bill is not acceptable.
- If you have any questions about Valid Proof of Residency, or need additional information please email [pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us](mailto:pkregistration@effingham.k12.ga.us) or call the ECSD Central Registration Center at (912) 754-2530.

*\*\*\*The ECSD Central Registration Center has the right to approve/deny/request additional information about your proof of residency situation if needed. \*\*\**

## 4. Immunization / Health Certificate

- Valid Certificate of Immunization (GA Health Dept. Form 3231), Completed ECSD Religious Objection Form (CR24), OR a Notarized Affidavit of Religious Exemption (GA Dept. of Health Form 2208).** The certificate of immunization must be completed by the health department or your health care provider. A valid Form #3231 must be marked with either "Date of Expiration" or "Complete for School Attendance." (A certificate marked with a "Date of Expiration" expires on the date indicated. A current certificate must be submitted within 30 days of expiration.) A medical exemption, if applicable, should be noted on Form #3231 with a current date of expiration.
- Ear, Eye, Dental, and Nutrition (EEDN) Screening (Ga. Health Dept. Form #3300).** Available from the health department or your doctor/dentist. In its discretion, a local Health Department may accept written records of screenings performed by private practitioners licensed in a State other than Georgia, provided that such screenings were conducted within one year prior to the time that the child is admitted for the first time to a Georgia public school. In such a case, the Health Department shall sign and issue a Certificate based upon the information in such written records and shall keep such written records on file. (511-5-6-.07)

5. **Valid Social Security Card** with the student's social security number must be presented, or a GA Bright from the Start Pre-K Program Student Social Security Number Information Waiver Form must be presented.

6. **Supportive Services** Bring any documentation if your child and/or family participate in one of the following: Food Stamps, SSI, Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or Child and Parent Services (CAPS) program.