

VPK Program for 2026-2027

Voluntary Prekindergarten is a program provided in conjunction with the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas to ensure a strong start in kindergarten and beyond.

VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten for 4-Year-Olds):

- For children who are four years old on or before September 1
- **Free three-hour program** with an option to extend to the full school day
- Hands-on, play-based learning aligned with Florida Early Learning and Development Standards
- Encourages exploration, creativity, and critical thinking.
- Focus on early literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional skills.
- Programs at most elementary school sites across Pinellas County

How to apply for VPK

Families that applied during the first application period will be notified of a seat beginning on December 16, 2025, and will be asked to sign back in to **focus.pcsb.org** by January 9, 2026, to accept the seat.

The second application period for VPK will begin February 2, 2026, and end on February 11, 2026.

VPK families must apply for a **certificate of eligibility** with the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County starting January 1, 2026. Please visit the Early Learning Coalition and complete the online application for the Certificate of Eligibility. For additional information about the certificate, please call the Early Learning Coalition at (727) 400-4411.

- Extend VPK to the full school day. Children attending the full day will have a weekly tuition of \$125.00/week at elementary school sites.

Tuition assistance will be available for families that qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program. This initiative will extend VPK to the full elementary school day for children whose families qualify. To qualify, families must complete the school lunch application. The application will be available in August prior to the start of the program year. Families qualifying for reduced lunch will have a reduced rate of weekly tuition set at \$30.00. Families qualifying for free lunch will have tuition waived for full school day enrollment.

There will be a non-refundable registration fee of \$100.00 due at the time of enrollment.

Prek 3 Program for 2026-2 Prek 3 Program for 2026-2027

Prekindergarten 3 is a program that enhances language and communication skills, while supporting cognitive, physical, and social-emotional development.

PK3 (For 3-Year-Olds) How to apply for PK3

Families that applied during the first application period will be notified of a seat beginning on December 16, 2025, and will be asked to sign back in to focus.pcsb.org by January 9, 2026, to accept the seat.

The second application period for PK3 will begin February 2, 2026, and end on February 11, 2026.

- For children who are 3 years old on or before September 1
- Encourages creativity, problem-solving, and social interaction
- Integrates academic concepts through hands-on activities
- Daily routines that build confidence and independence
- Programs available at most elementary schools across Pinellas County
- Full school day tuition-based program
- On-site before and after-school care available through community partners

PK3 tuition at elementary school sites will be \$140.00/week.

- There will be a non-refundable registration fee of \$100.00 due at the time of enrollment.



On-Site Care for Preschoolers

The YMCA is the nation's largest school-age childcare provider

In partnership with Pinellas County Schools, the YMCA provides on-site care before and after the bell rings for the county's PK3 (For 3-Year-Olds) and VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten for 4-Year-Olds) Programs.

This program is about more than looking after children — it's about providing a safe and nurturing environment for youth to learn, grow and develop social skills.

Parent
Pre-Enrollment
opens Jan. 20,
2026

Parents should apply or register with Pinellas County Schools' Early Learning programs first, and then pre-enroll with the YMCA to reserve a space for your child.

Program Details

- Care provided 6:30AM until the start of school and release of school until 6PM
- PK3 Program (3-year-olds): \$112/week
- VPK Program (4-year-olds): \$101/week
- Financial assistance is offered. ELC Families, an additional fee may be required. Please contact us for more information about these programs.



Scan the code or visit
[stpeteymca.org/
afterschool](https://stpeteymca.org/afterschool)

