

MTSD 2026 - 2027

PRE-K PROGRAM



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do students do during a Pre-K day?

The MTSD Pre-K program values the importance of early learning experiences as the building blocks for future success. Our Pre-K curriculum is aligned to the PA Early Learning Standards and the MTSD Kindergarten curriculum. We provide an integrated, enriched, student-centered, and hands-on learning environment that meets the social/emotional, physical, and cognitive needs of students ages 3-5.

What are the student to teacher ratios?

There is a maximum of a 10:1 ratio in each classroom. MTSD Pre-K classes have one PA Early Childhood Education Certified Teacher and one Pre-K Assistant in each room. Classes may have up to 20 students per classroom.

What is the schedule?

Monday - Friday for a total of five days per week.

- Pre-K students dropped off between 9 and 9:15 am
- Pre-K instructional day: 9:15 to 3 pm
- Pre-K students picked up between 3 and 3:15 pm

What ages are accepted?

Students ages 3 & 4 are accepted at the MTSD Pre-K Program. Preference is given to 4 yr olds.

Can non-Millcreek families enroll?

Yes! However, preference is given to Millcreek families. Non-Millcreek families will be notified if their application has been accepted after the priority date for Millcreek families has passed.

Is there an registration fee?

Yes, there is a Registration Fee. This fee is not charged unless the student is enrolled into the program and is \$35.



MTSD Pre-K Program Office



814-836-6904



www.mtsd.org/prek
greenaway@mtsd.org

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What is the cost?

Cost may vary depending on family eligibility for Pre-K Counts, scholarships, and other funding. Tuition for MTSD Pre-K is \$8,226. For more information, visit the financial assistance page on our website:

www.mtsd.org/prek/financial-assistance

If you are interested in Before & After Care pricing, please visit the CDC website: <https://www.cdcenters.org/programs-services/school-age-msd.html> or call CDC at 814-480-9472. The CDC accepts MTSD Pre-K children at our Asbury & Belle Valley locations.

Are there discounts for Millcreek families or siblings of current students?

No, but there are other financial assistance opportunities available. Please review the information on the financial assistance page of our website.

What financial options are available to help families with costs?

For qualifying families, Pre-K Counts and EITC Scholarships are available. There is also a specific fund through the Millcreek Education Foundation dedicated to supporting MTSD Pre-K families in need. ELRC funding is accepted by the CDC for pre-k before and after care. Please review the financial assistance options available by visiting the financial assistance page of our website.

What is Pre-K Counts?

Pre-K Counts is a state initiative to help ensure children ages 3-4 have the chance to learn in a high-quality Pre-K environment, become excited about school, and be prepared for Kindergarten. Pre-K Counts is a scholarship program for families who earn up to 300% of the federal income poverty level.



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What happens if all the Pre-K Counts spots are taken at my desired location? Tuition spots?

Families may give preferences on their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice locations. If a desired location is full, they may enroll at another preferred location with available spots. For Pre-K Counts families, if all available spots are taken at a desired location, families may choose to pay for a tuition spot at that location if there are any available.

Are breakfasts and lunches included?

Breakfasts are included and lunches have a cost. Qualifying families can receive free or reduced cost meals. Please review the Free and Reduced Meal Information on the Food Services page of our website: <https://www.mtsd.org/who-we-are/district-offices/food-service>

What benefits are there to choosing MTSD Pre-K over other area options?

- Pre-K Teachers are PA certified teachers in Early Education, many hold master's degrees and additional teacher certifications. Pre-K Assistants are also high-qualified. Both Pre-K Teachers and Pre-K Assistants participated in district-aligned and individualized professional development each year.
- MTSD Pre-K students become familiar with MTSD schools, teachers, and programs, making it a smoother transition into Kindergarten.
- Transitions from Pre-K to Kindergarten is a smooth process with strong collaboration between the Pre-K teams, Kindergarten teams, and support services.
- The MTSD Pre-K program values the importance of early learning experiences as the building blocks for future success. Our Pre-K curriculum is aligned to the PA Early Learning Standards and the MTSD Kindergarten curriculum.
- Within each school, the Pre-K students are included in appropriate school activities that enhance their learning (e.g., 'Reading Buddies,' parent activities, collaborative class projects, school-based student performances).



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