

# Pre K Sliding Scale

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



**DURHAM**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Q1. What is the change for students attending Pre K programs and where can the DPS Pre K sliding scale be found?

**A1.** Students attending locally funded Pre K sites will be required to pay a subsidized portion of the Pre K slot based on a sliding scale. Current schools impacted by this new procedure include: George Watts, Morehead Montessori Elementary school, and the Whitted Preschool Center for Early Education. The scale is located on the websites of Morehead and Watts Montessori schools ([morehead.dpsnc.net](http://morehead.dpsnc.net) and [watts.dpsnc.net](http://watts.dpsnc.net)), as well as on the Durham Public Schools website at ([www.dpsnc.net](http://www.dpsnc.net)).

### Q2. Why is DPS requiring a fee to be paid and are all families required to pay something?

**A2.** As DPS focuses on increasing the available Pre K services to all students, the use of a sliding scale will allow free or subsidized services for more students who do not qualify for the federally funded Pre K school programs supported by Title I and IDEA. The scale is based on 200% poverty rate and is priced lower than current preschool programs in the Durham community. Monthly fees on the sliding scale are based on annual income and the number of household members living in the home. Families with an annual income below \$32,000 will not be required to pay a fee.

### Q3. Who will be collecting the program fee and how will the funds collected be used?

**A3.** Durham Public Schools Department of Community Education and Family Engagement will collect program fees. Fees collected from the sliding scale will help supplement the costs associated with the Pre K program. Pre K student costs, including allotments for teachers, teacher assistants, instructional materials, and training, are not covered by state funding for schools.

#### Q4. What forms of payment will be accepted?

**A4.** Payment will be accepted in the form of a mailed check or money order, cash payment in person, debit/credit over the phone or by auto draft upon completion of the appropriate forms. This is in alignment with current Community Education and Family Engagement Department processes. Electronic payment process for pre-school payments will be forthcoming.

#### Q5. What happens if a family does not pay?

**A5.** Families are responsible for paying program fees to the Community Education and Family Engagement Department by the first of each month. The same procedures will be followed for non-payment as we do for other paid programs within Durham Public Schools. Nonpayment could result in the loss of a Pre K magnet seat.

#### Q6. What documentation is required for verification of income? Household size?

**A6.** All families of assigned students must register at their assigned school by the deadline published by the Office of Student Assignment. When the magnet or Pre K program seat is approved and accepted, we will require proof of income. The same types of documentation required by Durham’s Partnership for Children for the universal preschool application will be required as proof of income. Multiple forms of income verification can be provided; any of the examples listed below will be accepted:

Forms of Verification
Paystubs for all jobs (long term temp, part time, military income)
Child Support documentation
Pension documentation
SSA and/or SSI
Disability documentation
Alimony documentation
Commissioned sales income
Scholarships and/or grants
Financial Assistance forms
1099 forms
Prior year tax returns