

Establishing or Expanding a Public Pre-K Program

If your district is interested in opening a new, or expanding a current, public preschool program, please refer to the following steps.

1. To receive funding on your ED 279 for Pre-K students for the year in which you are starting or expanding programming, SAUs must complete the Estimate Pre-K Count Data Form from the fall preceding the school year in which the program will begin.
 1. The Fall 2021 form will be due no later than November 5, 2021 to reflect school year 2022-2023 estimated Pre-K enrollment counts.
 2. The form link is provided in the [Maine DOE News](#) in October of each year. The link to this year's form is [available here](#).
2. Become familiar with [Chapter 124: Basic Approval Standards: Public Preschool Programs](#).
3. Complete Maine DOE's public pre-k application by using the [on-line application](#) and submit it by April 30, 2022 for a fall 2022 opening date. Applications will be reviewed and districts will be notified of approval from Maine DOE. Users can access a PDF version of the application [here](#).

Currently there is a [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) available to SAUs to apply for grant funding to support establishment or expansion of Pre-K programming in school year 2022-2023. Those interested should [complete the application](#) no later than November 4, 2021.

Nicole Madore, Early Childhood Specialist, is available for on-site consultation, meetings with district staff and community members, resources, phone calls and email. Do not hesitate to contact her with any questions or concerns. Nicole.madore@maine.gov