

Universal Pre-kindergarten

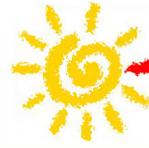
What is Universal Pre-Kindergarten?

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) is an award-winning program administered by Invest in Children to help 3-5 year olds have access to **high-quality** pre-kindergarten programs. UPK is a top priority of Cuyahoga County government, and is funded through the county's Health and Human Services Levy, and the generosity of private foundations and individuals. Only those preschool sites that meet our higher gold standard of quality can be a UPK Site!

What is Invest in Children?

We are Cuyahoga County's effort to improve the health and education of all young children, and provide helpful services to parents. We partner with Starting Point, the local child care resource and referral agency, to provide technical assistance and training to all UPK programs.

Accessible
Affordable



Where can I find a UPK Preschool?

UPK sites are located throughout the county and include public preschools, Head Start programs, community child care centers, and family child care homes. All UPK sites meet a series of standards, proven through research to be the hallmarks of quality that result in improved school readiness. Find a UPK site at www.cuyahogakids.org

Who can Attend? Is UPK Affordable?

Any preschool-aged resident of Cuyahoga County can attend a UPK Preschool. Each program sets its own tuition rates, but Cuyahoga County can provide scholarship assistance to families earning up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level (for example: \$98,400 annual income for a family of four.)



High
Quality

What does a UPK preschool look like?

The very best preschools meet these high standards and many others.

- Teachers hold higher education qualifications, and value and participate in professional development that exceeds the minimum requirements.
- Low teacher / child ratios.
- The needs, interests and abilities of children are the basis for developing experiences and activities.
- Programs share child screening and assessment results with families and together activities and plans are developed to support children's learning and development goals.
- Family and community input is used to inform the program's continuous improvement process.
- A variety of high-quality and engaging materials are provided for children to explore.

UPK Sites
are a step UP!