

# What

## What is Universal Pre-Kindergarten?

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) is an award-winning initiative administered by Invest in Children in Cuyahoga County to help preschool children ages 3-5 have access to a **high-quality** pre-kindergarten program. Only those preschool sites that meet strict local and state requirements for quality can be a UPK Site!

## What is Invest in Children?

Invest in Children is Cuyahoga County's public/private partnership serving the needs of young children from prenatal to kindergarten. We partner with Starting Point, the regional child care resource and referral agency, to provide technical assistance and training to all UPK programs.



# Where



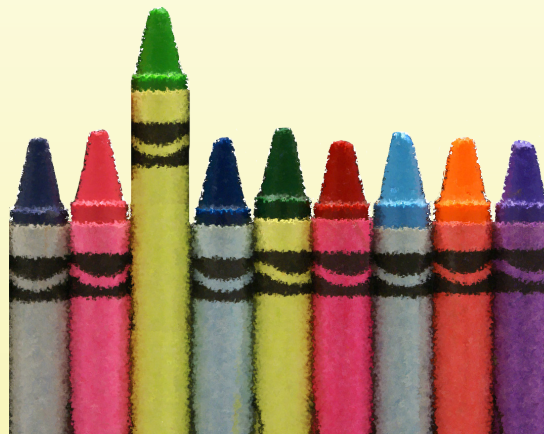
## Where is UPK?

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. View a UPK site map at:

[www.investinchildren.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.investinchildren.cuyahogacounty.us)

## Is UPK Affordable?







Each program sets its own tuition rates. Cuyahoga County can provide scholarship assistance for one-third of the cost to families earning up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level (for example: \$95,400 annual income for a family of four.)



# 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!