



Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn

Applying for 3-K and Pre-K!

and other early childhood options



Quick Poll

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Today's Training

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Introductions



3-K & Pre-K Programs



Infant & Toddler Programs



Special Populations



3-K & Pre-K Applications



Head Start



Resources





What is Advocates for Children?

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AFC is an independent agency that protects the rights of all NYC students

Our Services:

- Helpline: **1-866-427-6033** (Mon-Thurs, 10am – 4pm)
- Free legal services to low-income families
- Guides and resources: www.advocatesforchildren.org
- Workshops and trainings
- Policy Advocacy and Impact Litigation



Early Childhood Program Options

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Infant &
Toddler

3-K

Pre-K

Head
Start



DOE 3-K

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- Free full-day program (6 hrs & 20 mins)
- Run by the DOE
- Starts in September of the year child turns 3
- All children are eligible to apply but not all children are guaranteed a seat
- Some programs offer extended hours and year-round services

schools.nyc.gov/3K



Districts that Guarantee 3-K Seats

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Bronx
7, 8, 9, 12

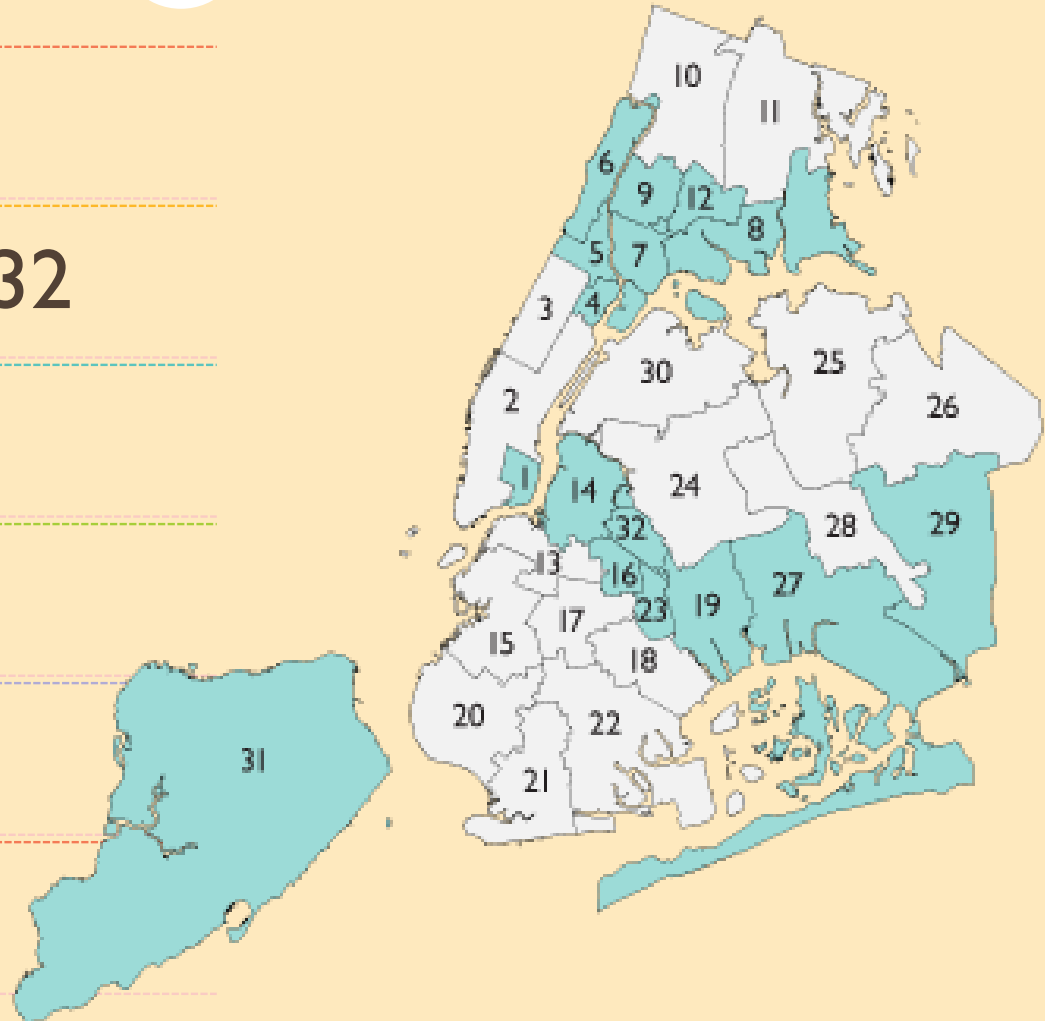
Brooklyn
14, 16, 19, 23, 32

Manhattan
1, 4, 5, 6

Queens
27, 29

Staten Island
31

Find Your District
Call 311





DOE 3-K Settings

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District Schools

- DOE public elementary schools.
- Overseen by the school's principal.

Pre-K Centers

- Run by DOE offering pre-K and 3-K classes only.

NYCEECs

- NYC Early Education Centers are community-based organizations.

Family Child Care

- Home-based programs with licensed professionals for children from birth to three.





DOE Pre-K

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4



- Free full-day program (6 hrs and 20 mins)
- Run by the DOE
- Starts in September of the year child turns 4
- All children who apply are guaranteed a seat
- Some programs offer extended hours and year-round services

schools.nyc.gov/PK



DOE Pre-K Settings



District
Schools

Pre-K
Centers

NYCEECs

Charter
Schools



Extended Day/Year & Head Start

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Offer services
year-round for up
to 10 hours a day

Families must
qualify based on
financial need and
other factors

Free or low-cost

Located in
NYCEECs +
Family Child Care

All School
Districts



3-K & Pre-K Application Processes

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Research

- Explore your options

Apply

- Rank up to 12 programs

Offer

- Receive offer and register in late spring

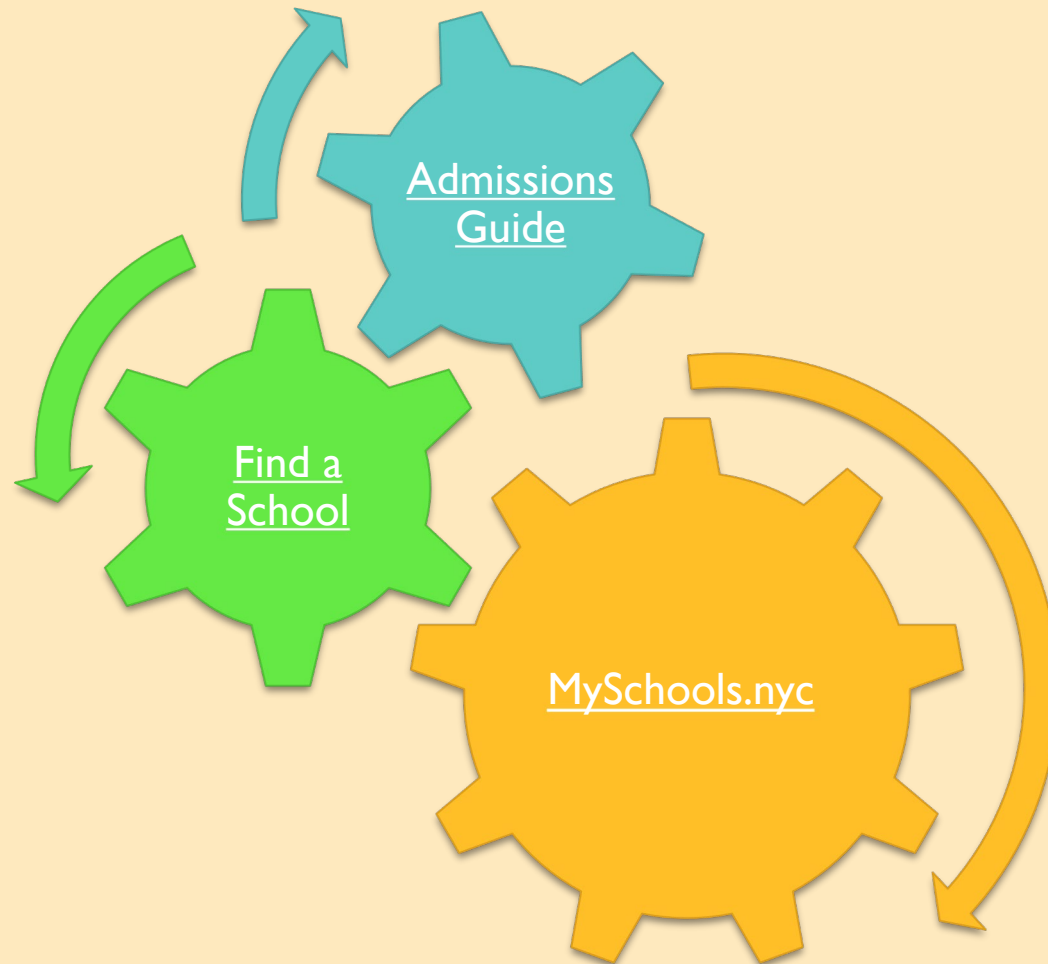
Waitlists

- Hear from programs through summer



Exploring Programs

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MySchools Directory

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MySchools.nyc is dedicated to our friend and colleague, Dave Yang, who spearheaded the creation of this enrollment platform, and who was a force for change and progress at NYC DOE.

NYC MYSCHOOLS

School Directory

Calendar

Enrollment Support

Help

English

Log In

151 WEST 30 STREET, MANHATTAN, NY 10001

Search by school name, interests, etc.



Need a Pre-K Seat Now?

Subway

District

Type

Other Admissions Grades

More Filters

Bright Horizons At Chelsea (02MCDA) ✓

NYCEEC | DISTRICT 02

0.3 Miles

Pre-K - School Day

The Chelsea Shul & Jewish Community Center (02MCDI) ✓





MySchools Directory

16

Filters

Subway

District

Program Type

Extended Day/Year

Program Information

Type

Contact Information

Admissions Priorities

Quality Snapshot

Other features (language)



MySchools Directory

Hudson Guild Children's Center (02MAUP)



NYCEEC | DISTRICT 02

0.6 Miles



Pre-K - Extended Day and Year (Eligibility Requirements)

MSH 507 LLC (02MCAC)

NYCEEC | DISTRICT 02

0.6 Miles



Pre-K - School Day

Sixth Avenue Elementary School (02M340)

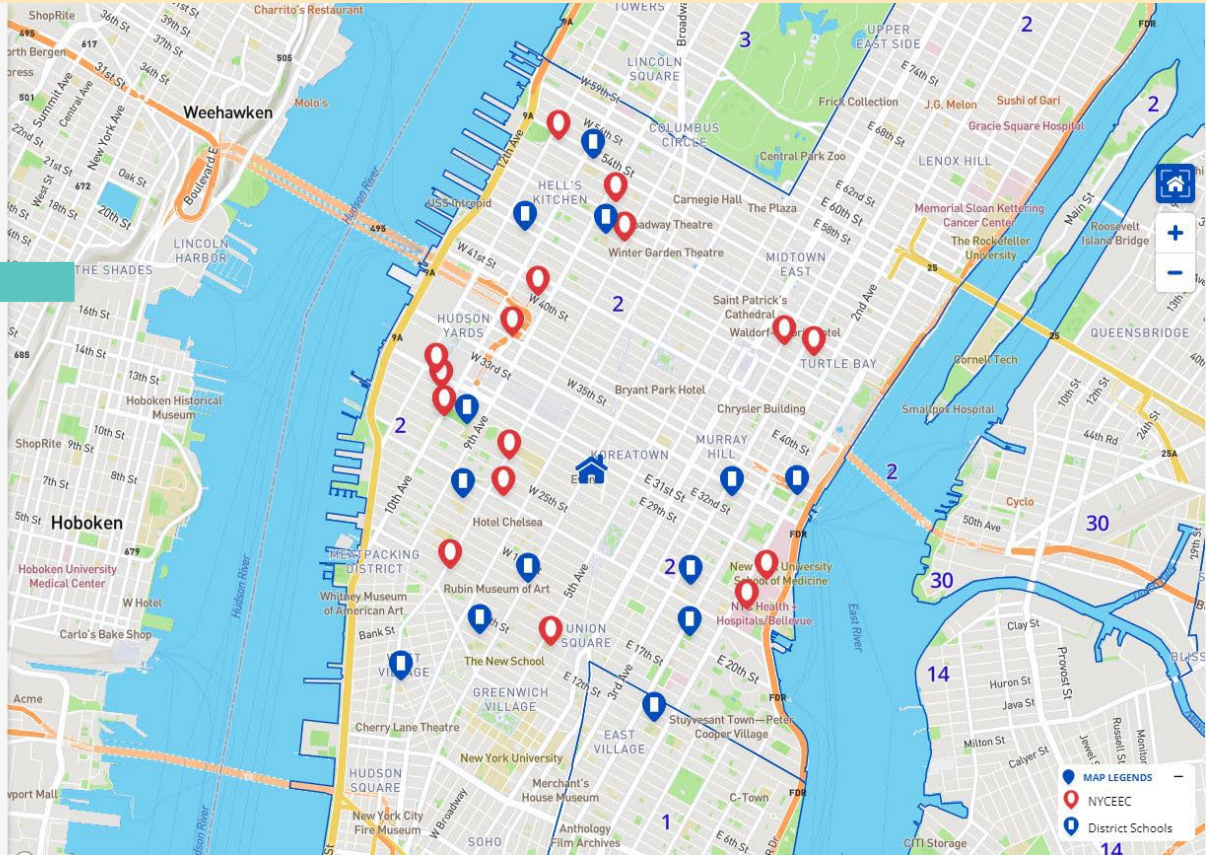


DISTRICT SCHOOL | DISTRICT 02

0.7 Miles



Pre-K - School Day



Trivia

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The DOE provides busing to preschoolers attending 3-K and Pre-K in the following settings:

- a) District Schools
- b) Pre-K Centers
- c) NYCEECS
- d) All of the above
- e) None of the above





2024-2025 School Year Applications

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By March 1st

Apply to Pre-K

- Born in 2020

Apply to 3-K

- Born 2021

3 Ways to Apply

Online: [MySchools.nyc](https://www.myschools.nyc.gov)

By Phone: 718-935-2009

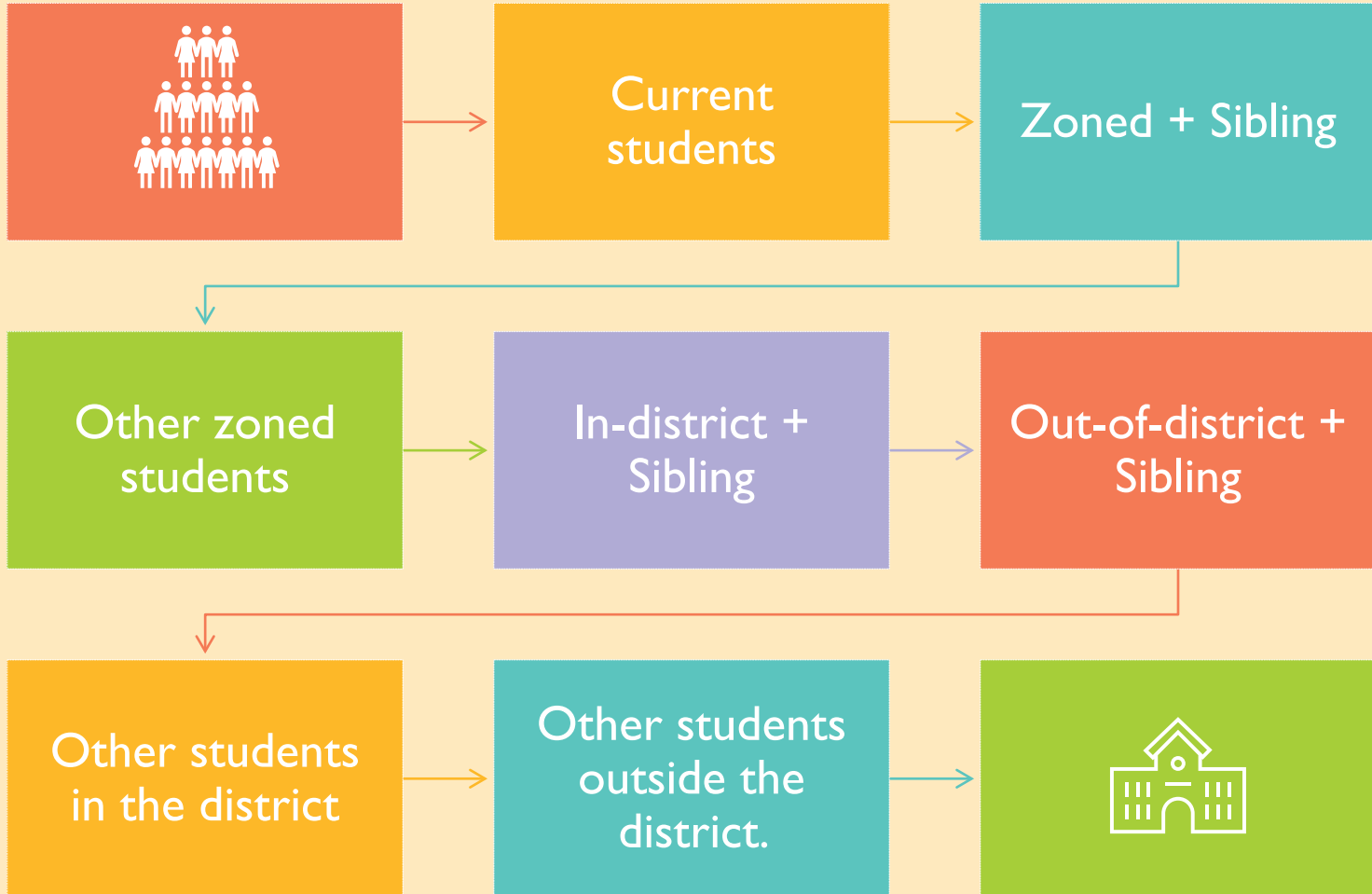
[Family Welcome Centers](#)





Admissions Priorities: District Schools

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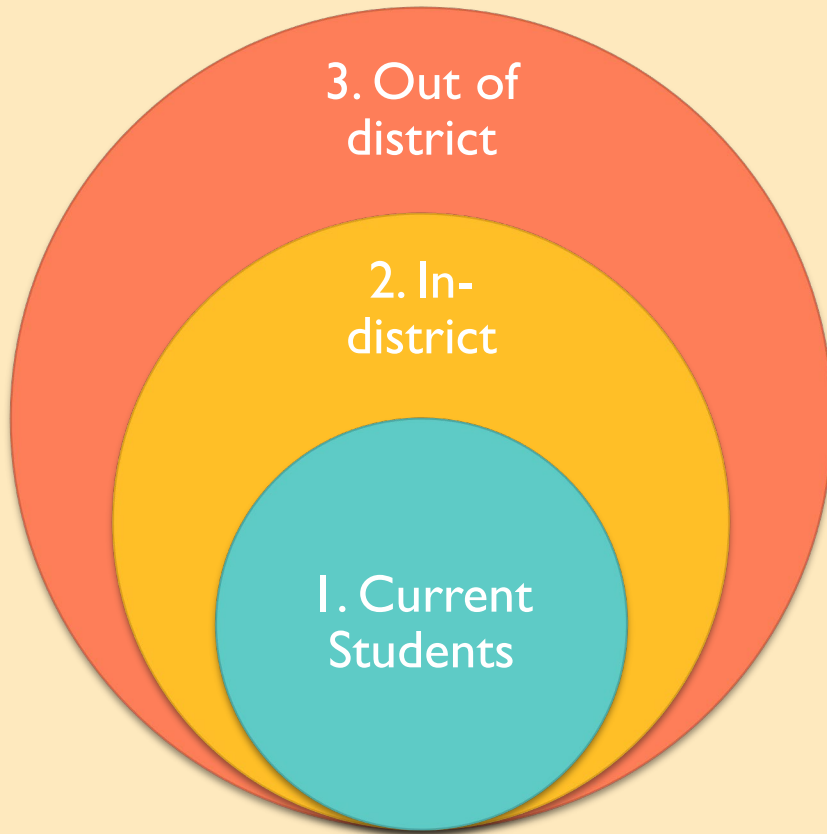




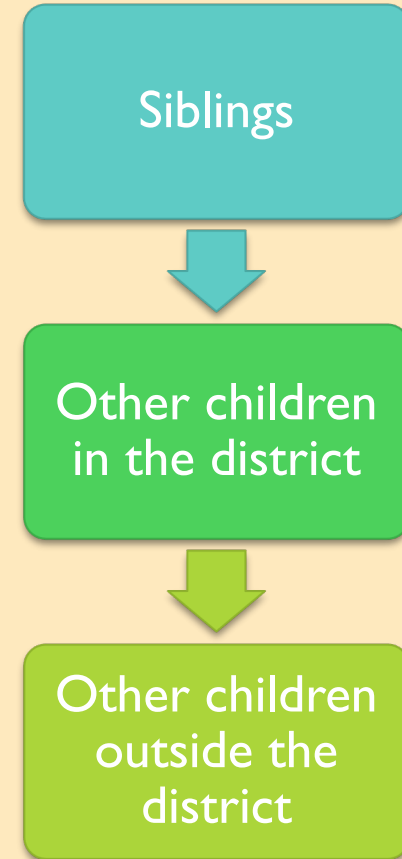
Admissions Priorities: Pre-K Centers

22

- Pre-K



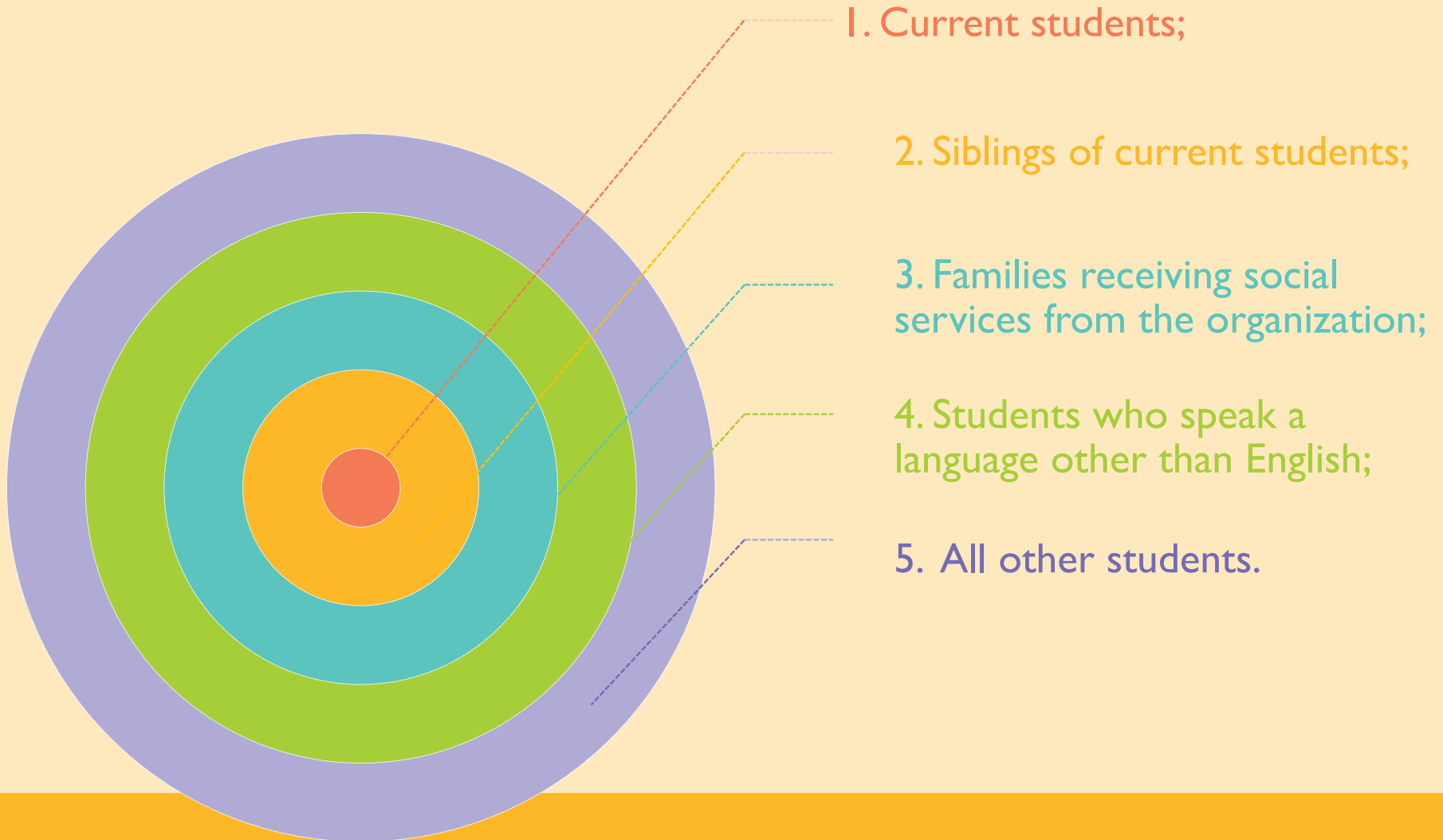
- 3-K





Admissions Priorities: NYCCEECs

23





Trivia

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True or False

Children who attend a Pre-K program in a district school are guaranteed a seat in that school for kindergarten.



Application Process: Offers & Registration

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Receive an offer in late
spring

Accept offer and register
by date on offer letter

Waitlists



Registration

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One Proof of Child's Age

- Birth certificate, passport, record of baptism

Two Proofs of Address

- Lease, deed, mortgage statement, utility bill, rent receipt, government ID

You do not need to provide proof of citizenship or a Social Security number.

Students in Temporary Housing have a right to immediate enrollment



MySchools.nyc: Need a Seat Now?

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- Find seats for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year for children born in 2020 (3-K) and 2019 (Pre-K) using the “[Need A Seat Now](#)” filter.
- Contact programs directly to ask about seat type and to register.

The screenshot shows the MySchools.nyc interface. At the top, there's a blue header with the NYC MYSCHOOLS logo and a home icon. Below the header, the current location is set to '151 WEST 30 STREET, MANHATTAN, NY 10001'. A search bar is present with the placeholder text 'Search by school name, interests, etc.' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar, there are several filter buttons: 'Need a Pre-K Seat Now?' (highlighted with a yellow arrow), 'Subway', 'District', 'Type', 'Other Admissions Grades', and 'More Filters'. The search results are displayed in a list format. The first result is 'Bright Horizons At Chelsea (02MCDA)', which is a NYCEEC program in District 02, located 0.3 miles away. It offers 'Pre-K - School Day' seats. The second result is 'The Chelsea Shul & Jewish Community Center (02MCDI)'. A map on the right side of the screen shows the surrounding area in Manhattan.





Applying to Charter Schools

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Find Pre-K programs
MySchools.nyc and
schools.nycharterschools.org

Contacts schools
directly to apply.

Free Public
School
Not Run By DOE

Most applications are
due by April 1st.

Usually admissions by
lottery.



Trivia

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Which of these students are considered “students in temporary housing”? Select all that apply.

- a) Student living in a shelter
- b) Student “doubled up” with friends or relatives because they lost their housing or can’t afford housing
- c) Student living in a motel
- d) Student living in a park or public place



Students in Temporary Housing

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Applying & Registering

- Use temporary address to apply
- Register even if you're missing documents

Immediate Enrollment

- If there is an open seat, child can attend even if you're missing documents

School Stability

- Can stay in program even if change address

Transportation

- Monthly MetroCard for parents
- Possibly busing

Help

- DOE Regional Managers
- Call AFC's Helpline!



Students in Foster Care

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Foster Care Agencies

- Provide Case Planners or Education Specialists
- Assist with application and enrollment process

Immediate Enrollment

- To programs with open seat
- Even if can't provide documentation

School Stability

- Can stay in program when child is placed in foster care or changes foster homes.

Transportation

- MetroCards
- Possibly busing



Students With Disabilities

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Can and should apply to 3-K and Pre-K programs!

Receive special education services

Add Seats

Accessible program

Help

SEIT and related services

Behavioral support



CPSE

718-935-2007



Students With Disabilities

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Students with more significant needs may require a more supportive setting.

Special Class in an Integrated Setting

- Smaller class size
- Students with and without IEPs
- Special education teacher

Special Class

- Small class size (6, 8, 12)
- All students with IEPs
- Special education teacher

If these are recommended on IEP, the [CPSE](#) is responsible for finding a program for the child. The DOE will provide busing. Contact EarlyChildhoodBusing@schools.nyc.gov with transportation questions.



Trivia

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True or False

Families of children with disabilities should not apply to 3-K or Pre-K until after they've had an IEP meeting.



Emergent Multilingual Learners

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Dual Language Programs

- Instruction in English and another language, with the goal of helping all students to learn both languages

Enhanced Language Supports

- Supports to enhance language development

For Help

- Contact prekduallanguage@schools.nyc.gov





Infant & Toddler Programs

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- Run by the DOE
- Free and low-cost programs
- Serve children from 6 weeks old to 3 years
- Offer extended hours (up to 10) and year-round services
- Only for qualifying families



schools.nyc.gov/InfantsToddlers



Child Care Eligibility

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Infant & Toddler, Extended Day/Year Programs

Financial Need And Other Factors

- Public assistance, low income and need child care because of job or education, active cases with ACS, living in temporary housing, or receiving domestic violence services
- Some parents need to pay a fee based on a sliding scale

Resources

- To see if you are eligible, call 311, contact a [Family Welcome Center](#) or call a [Child Care Resource and Referral](#) agency.



Infant & Toddler Programs

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Finding Programs

- Call 311
- Visit [MySchools.nyc](https://www.schools.nyc.gov/my-schools)

Apply

- Apply anytime
- Contact programs directly
- Visit [MyCity.nyc.gov](https://www.mycity.nyc.gov)

Help

- [Family Welcome Centers](#)
- [Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies](#)
- Email ccapplication@schools.nyc.gov



Promise NYC

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Child care assistance for children who are undocumented

Eligibility

Child under 13 in NYC

Child without immigration status

Family income below 300% of the poverty level

Household Size	300% Poverty Level - 2024
2	\$61,320
3	\$77,460
4	\$93,600
5	\$109,740
6	\$125,880



Applying for Promise NYC

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Brooklyn — Center for Family Life in Sunset Park

- Call 718-438-9500
- Visit 443 39th St, Brooklyn NY 11232

Manhattan & Bronx — Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

- Call 929-415-3999 Tuesdays 10 AM – 12 PM
- Email promisenyc@nmic.org

Queens — Chinese-American Planning Council

- Text 934-223-9652
- Email Robert Calabretta rcalabretta@cpc-nyc.org
- Complete [online form](#) (English)

Staten Island — La Colmena

- Complete online form ([English](#)) ([Español](#))
- Call (718)-442-7700 Monday–Fridays, 9 AM – 5 PM
- Email judith@lacolmenanyc.org
- Visit 774 Port Richmond Ave, Staten Island, NY 10302 or 88 Canal St, Staten Island NY 10304



Head Start

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Services

- Year round and longer hours
- Educational, health, nutrition, social, and other services

Age

- Early Head Start: Pregnant mothers, infants & toddlers
- Head Start: 3 to Kindergarten

Eligibility

- Low Income, Temporary Housing, Foster Care, or Receiving Public Assistance

Application

- Find a program
- Apply directly or through 3-K and Pre-K application





Language Access Rights: Translation & Interpretation

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Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian-Creole, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Urdu

Translation:

- letters
- forms
- meeting notices
- special education documents

Interpretation:

- parent-teacher conferences
- parent association meetings
- meetings with school staff
- special education meetings

DOE language access complaints: (718) 935-2013 or [Hello@schools.nyc.gov](mailto>Hello@schools.nyc.gov)



AFC Guides & Factsheets

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- Children with Disabilities
 - Guide to Early Intervention
 - Guide to Preschool Special Education Services
 - Kindergarten Transition Guide
- Programs & Admissions
 - Early Childhood Education Programs: A Guide to Early Childhood Education Programs for 3- and 4-Year Olds
 - Kindergarten Admissions Guide

[Visit Our Website!](#)





DOE Resources

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Enrollment

- [Family Welcome Centers](#)
- Office of Student Enrollment
 - Eenrollment@schools.nyc.gov
 - (718) 935-2009

Learn More

- schools.nyc.gov/3k
- schools.nyc.gov/PK
- schools.nyc.gov/InfantsToddlers



Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn

Call us with questions!



Helpline: 866-427-6033 (toll free)
Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm

info@advocatesforchildren.org