

What Larimer County Families Need to Know about Universal Pre-K

What is UPK Colorado?

UPK Colorado is a state-funded universal preschool program that provides at least 15 hours of voluntary, free preschool programming to every 4 year old in the state for the 2023-24 school year. UPK Colorado is also known as Universal Pre-K, universal pre-kindergarten, and universal preschool.

Who is eligible for UPK Colorado?

All Colorado children, regardless of income or immigration status, who are 4 years old on or before October 1, 2023, are eligible for at least 15 hours of UPK Colorado in the upcoming school year. This means up to \$5,944.89 in free preschool programming for Larimer County families. Families that meet qualifying factors (including income) may be eligible for more funding.*

**Children who are 4 and have one or more qualifying factors, like an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or those in foster/kinship care, may be eligible for up to 30 hours of preschool programming per week. Children who are 3 years old on or before October 1, 2023, with a qualifying factor may also be eligible for support.*

How do I apply for UPK Colorado?

It's a two-step process.

1. Apply for UPK Colorado at: upk.colorado.gov
2. Once families receive their "match," then enroll in a participating preschool

What if I need more than 15 hours of preschool a week?

- Families can choose to pay for more hours of preschool based on their needs.
- Children also will continue to qualify for the state's Child Care Assistance Program, Head Start and other funding sources, which can be stacked on top of the 15 universal preschool hours.

