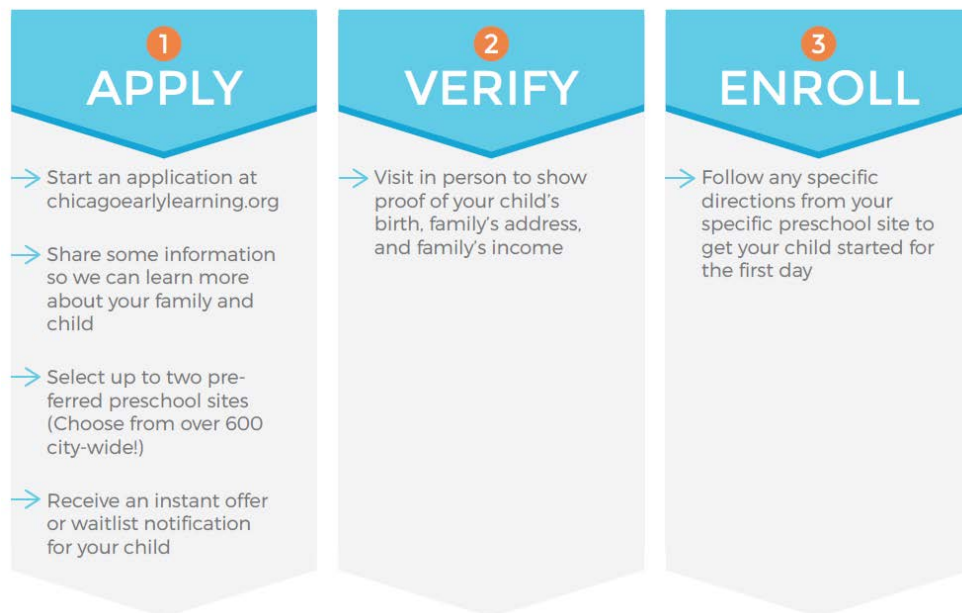




An Advocate's Guide to Chicago Early Learning Preschool Programs

AT A GLANCE

- *The Chicago Early Learning online preschool application is open to families with children turning 3 or 4 years-old by September 1st, 2017*
- *Families facing high needs circumstances, such as poverty, temporary living situations, teen parents, or others, receive priority consideration for Chicago Early Learning preschool seats*
- *Anyone can apply -- Visit www.chicagoeearlylearning.org and see how easy it is!*
- *Search from over 600 Chicago Public Schools and Community-Based Pre-school Programs online using the easy Find and Compare tool*
- *The online application process is three steps:*



WHY PRESCHOOL?

Research shows that kids who go to preschool are more likely to:

- Have a stronger grasp of literacy, math and social skills going into kindergarten
- Earn a high school diploma
- Obtain higher wages when they are employed
- Avoid getting involved in criminal activity later in life

One 2014-15 school year analysis showed that children who had full-day preschool came to CPS kindergarten twice as likely to be reading at grade level as those who had either attended half-day or no pre-school.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the online application mobile friendly?

Yes – apply right from your cell phone!

Do I have to apply online?

The online application is convenient for many families. But, if applying on the phone or in person is easier for you, call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690, or visit one of 12 Family Resource Centers located at libraries around the city. Learn more at chicagoeearlylearning.org/how-to-apply.

Does the application come in multiple languages?

Yes – You can click “español” in the corner of any page of chicagoeearlylearning.org and within your application to change the language to Spanish. That is the only other language available at this time.

What are the similarities and differences between a CPS Preschool and a Community-Based Site?

- A Chicago Public Schools preschool site is affiliated with an elementary school run through CPS. A community-based site may be locally owned and operated. At this time, admission to a CPS Preschool does not necessarily guarantee admission to kindergarten at that location.
- Hours may be longer than a traditional school day at a community-based site, often up to 10 hours, but they will vary location by location.
- All Chicago Early Learning programs, CPS or Community-Based, must meet rigorous state and federal standards
- All Chicago Early Learning programs use evidence-based curriculums and assessments to ensure children are on track for kindergarten
- All Chicago Early Learning programs have highly qualified teachers and a minimum of two teachers in the classroom.
- Most community-based settings have services for younger children, ages birth – three.
- The Verify and Enroll steps of the preschool application process are a little bit different for a CPS Preschool vs a Community-Based Site.
 - CPS preschools Verify at a Family Resource Center (visit chicagoeearlylearning.org/how-to-apply for more information). Then, families Enroll at the school either over the summer or on the first day of school.
 - Community-Based sites Verify and Enroll families directly at the Community-Based Site location. Families should reach out directly to their assigned site to schedule a visit.

What is the difference between childcare (might also be called daycare) and preschool?

- Childcare agencies are Community-Based Sites. However, if they are not a part of Chicago Early Learning, we cannot guarantee that they meet the same standards.

- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) funding is provided by the State to ensure low-income working parents have access to full-day care. Many community-based providers have reserved slots for low-income working families who qualify for CCAP. Contact a provider directly to answer more specific questions about eligibility.

Are all Chicago Early Learning preschool programs free?

Some programs are free to families, while other programs might require a small co-pay due to state or local funding requirements.

What if I have more questions?

You can visit chicagoearlylearning.org/faq, visit a Family Resource Center in person, or call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690.

HOW TO APPLY ONLINE FOR CHICAGO EARLY LEARNING PRE-SCHOOL

Chicago Early Learning Homepage

CHICAGO
Early Learning

Apply Now! For Families City Resources FAQs Español

For application information please call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690

LOOK WHAT I CAN DO!

There is no limit to what your child can accomplish! Jumpstart your child's education with Chicago Early Learning!

Complete your child's preschool application online today!

The Colman Family Resource Center will be closed June 21st and 22nd. Please see [this list](#) for other options, and plan to visit another Family Resource Center that day.

Questions? Browse our [FAQ page](#) for more information.

Enter an address, center, or zip code

Search

Use your current location

Visit www.chicagoearlylearning.org and click on the Find and Compare tool to search for programs that meet your family's needs.

Compare and Apply Tool I

For application information please call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690

Refine your search

☐ Ages 0 - 3
 ☐ Full Day
 ☐ School Year

☐ Ages 3 - 5
 ☐ Part Day
 ☐ Full Year

[More Filters](#)
[Reset Filters](#)

Location

**George Manierre
Elementary School**
 1420 N Hudson Ave, 60610
 Serves ages 3 - 5
 Full Day

[More Info](#)
[Directions](#)
[Compare and Apply](#)

**Jonathan Burr
Elementary School**
 1621 W Wabansia Ave, 60622

[More Info](#)
[Directions](#)

- Community based
- Chicago Public School
- Nationally Accredited
- Compare and Apply
- Seats Available
- Limited Availability

*placement is subject to eligibility

Gold Coast

You can narrow your search on the Find and Compare Tool to fit a variety of needs your family may have. Search by zip code, address, site name, or other criteria.

Compare and Apply Tool II

CHICAGO Early Learning

Enter an address Search

Apply Now! For Families City Resources FAQs Español

For application information please call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690

Refine your search

☐ Ages 0 - 3 ☐ Full Day ☐ School Year
☐ Ages 3 - 5 ☐ Part Day ☐ Full Year

More Filters Reset Filters

Compare and Apply (2)

Location

George Manierre Elementary School
1420 N Hudson Ave, 60610
Serves ages 3 - 5
Full Day

More Info Directions **Compare and Apply**

Jonathan Burr Elementary School
1621 W Wabansia Ave, 60622

More Info Directions

Click to remove from your list

Community based
Chicago Public School
Nationally Accredited
Compare and Apply
Seats Available
Limited Availability

*placement is subject to eligibility

Gold Coast

Leaflet | Imagery from MapBox

When you're ready, add sites to your Compare and Apply list.

Compare and Apply List

Compare and Apply

Compare early learning programs side-by-side to select the highest quality option for your child.

Select your two favorite choices and press the "Apply" button to build your Chicago Early Learning parent profile and complete an application.

Call the Chicago Early Learning Hotline at (312) 229-1690 if you would like assistance completing the application over the phone.

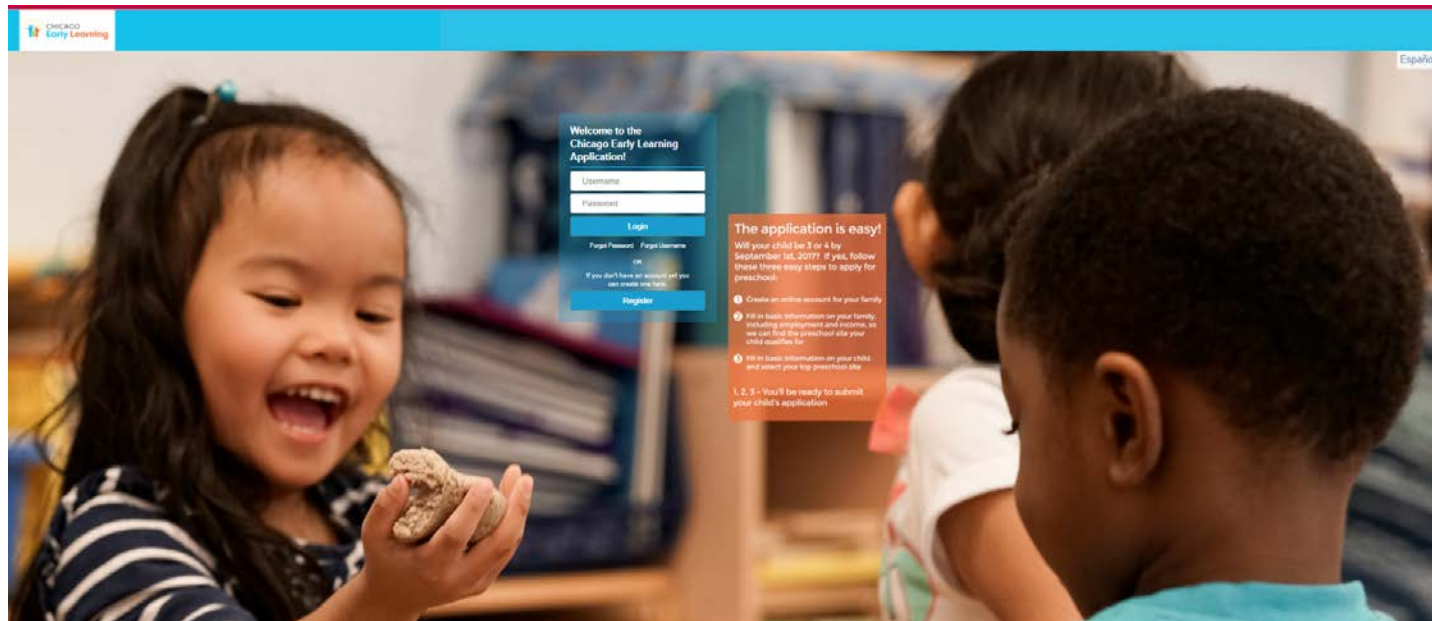
If you are looking to enroll in a program immediately or have a child that will not yet be 3 years old in the Fall, please contact the early childhood program directly.

Press "Back to Search" to add more locations you are interested in.

Apply	Site Info	Ages	Seats	Duration	Program Info	Accreditation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Manierre Elementary School 1420 N Hudson Ave Chicago, IL 60610 773-534-8456 Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 to 5	Slots Available	Full Day School Year	CPS Based	QRIS Gold
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Burr Elementary School 1621 W Wabansia Ave Chicago, IL 60622 773-534-4090 Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 to 5	Slots Available	Part Day School Year	CPS Based	QRIS Gold
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Louis A Agassiz Elementary School 2851 N Seminary Ave Chicago, IL 60657 773-534-5725 Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 to 5	Slots Available	Part Day School Year	CPS Based	QRIS Gold
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marillac St. Vincent Family Services - St. Vincent DePaul Center 2145 North Halsted St Chicago, IL 60614 7:00am-6:00pm 312-943-6776	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 to 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 to 5	Slots Available	Part Day Full Day Full Year	Community Based Spanish Accepts CCAP	NAEYC QRIS Gold

Select up to two sites to add to apply list – they will auto-populate to your application when you log into your application account. The apply button turns blue and you can click on it when you have at least one box checked on a site.

Application Login Page



Click Apply from the Find and Compare tool, or from the main chicagoearlylearning.org site. Either link takes you here. All families create an online account in order to apply.

Application Account Creation Page

Create your account

Primary Caregiver First Name (Required)

Primary Caregiver Middle Name

Primary Caregiver Last Name (Required)

Primary Caregiver Birth Date (Required)

Phone (Required)

Email Address (Required)

Either a cell phone number or an email address is required to register.
We strongly recommend providing an email address so that you can receive notification status and updates directly. If you do not supply an email address, you will be contacted at the phone number provided with instructions on how to retrieve information about your account.

User ID (Choose something you remember) (Required)

Username must be at least 8 characters, starting with a letter and may include underscore, period, dash and @ sign.

Password (Required)

- Case sensitive and minimum 8 characters in length
- Must start with a letter

Creating a login for a family account is easy! Just enter in some basic information.

Family Portal

Spanish Log Out

There are three basic steps to completing your child's preschool application:

1. Click 'Update Family Profile' and add general info, contact info, and income(s) for the child's caregiver(s).
2. Click 'New Child Application' and complete information for the child wishing to attend preschool. You will be able to select 1-2 preschool sites and see your preliminary status at each before submission.
3. Click 'Finalize and Submit Application.'

Family Profile

Primary Caregiver Name: [Redacted]
Application Date: [Redacted]
Home Phone: [Redacted]
Cell Phone: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]
Address: [Redacted]

Date of birth: 05-10-1989
Gender: Female
Ethnicity / Race: Caucasian

Child Profile

No	Name	Application #	Birthdate	Desired Location	Application
1		9034732	01-01-2013	Fairland Nursery School /	Edit

[New Child Application](#)

Diagram illustrating the three steps to creating an application for your child:

1. Click 'Update Family Profile' (Step 1)
2. Click 'New Child Application' (Step 2)
3. Click 'Finalize and Submit Application' (Step 3)

There are three steps to creating an application for your child. First, enter information on your family.

Primary Caregiver General Information

Portal / Primary Caregiver General Info / Primary Caregiver Contact Info / Secondary Caregiver General Info / Family Income Information

Please share more information on your family background, contact information, if there is another caregiver, and all of the income your family receives. Please answer to the best of your ability. If you need support filling out this section of the application, please call 312-229-1690.

Primary Caregiver General Info

Primary Caregiver First Name* (Required)		Middle Initial	Primary Caregiver Last Name (Required)	
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Birth Date (Required) 05-16-1989 <small>Example: Enter 12/05/1999 for Dec 5, 1999</small>		Gender (Required) Female		
Ethnicity Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino		Race (Required) Caucasian		
Primary Language (Required) English		Secondary Language		
Education level (Required) Bachelor or Advanced Degree		Employment Status (Required) Employed full-time		
Do you have Medical Insurance? (Required) Yes	Medical Insurance Type All	Are you disabled? <input type="text"/>	Are you Pregnant? <input type="text"/>	
Family Structure (Required) Two Parent	Parent(s) / Guardian(s) Best Descriptor (Required) Parents (biological, adoptive, stepparents, etc.)	Number in the family (Required) 2 <small>Includes all persons living in the household who are supported by the income of the child's parents or guardians and related to the parents or guardians by blood, marriage or adoption. This will be taken into account for eligibility determination.</small>	Number in Household (Required) 2 <small>Includes all persons living in the residence of the child applying to preschool. This will not be taken into account for eligibility determination.</small>	
Receiving WIC (Required) No	Receiving Food Stamp No	Does Guardian or caregiver receive mental health treatment? <input type="text"/>		
Housing Status <input type="text"/>				

[Click here](#) for more information on the definition of homelessness.

[Save and finish later](#) [Save and continue to next page](#)

First, enter some information on who the primary caregiver is and his/her background.

Primary Caregiver Contact Information

Portal / Primary Caregiver General Info / Primary Caregiver Contact Info / Secondary Caregiver General Info / Family Income Information

Primary Caregiver Contact Info

Street No. (Required) 4	Direction (Required) S	Street Name (Required) HYDE PARK BLVD,	Type Rd
Apt# 5H	Home Zip Code (Required) 60615	Preferred Phone (Either of Preferred or Cell Phone is Required) [Empty]	Cell Phone [Empty]
Can we text you updates on your child's application? Yes		Select your cell phone carrier AT&T	Email Address (Required) [Empty]

Save and return to profile Save and Proceed to Secondary Caregiver Info

Enter email or phone (or both!)

Then, share information on how to contact the primary caregiver.

Secondary Caregiver General Information

Portal / Primary Caregiver General Info / Primary Caregiver Contact Info / Secondary Caregiver General Info / Family Income Information

Secondary Caregiver General Info

No secondary caregiver in family ☐

Secondary Caregiver First Name* (Required)

Middle Initial

Secondary Caregiver Last Name (Required)

Birth Date (Required)

Gender (Required)

Enter in basic information on how to contact the secondary caregiver, if applicable.

Family Income Information

[Portal](#) / [Primary Caregiver General Info](#) / [Primary Caregiver Contact Info](#) / [Secondary Caregiver General Info](#) / [Family Income Information](#)

To the best of your ability, list all incomes you and your family receive. There are separate columns for primary and secondary caregiver – please complete both if applicable. You will submit proof of income later after your child's application is submitted. Gross income earned by the child's parents or legal guardians (only) will be included when determining a child's income eligibility.

Family Income Information

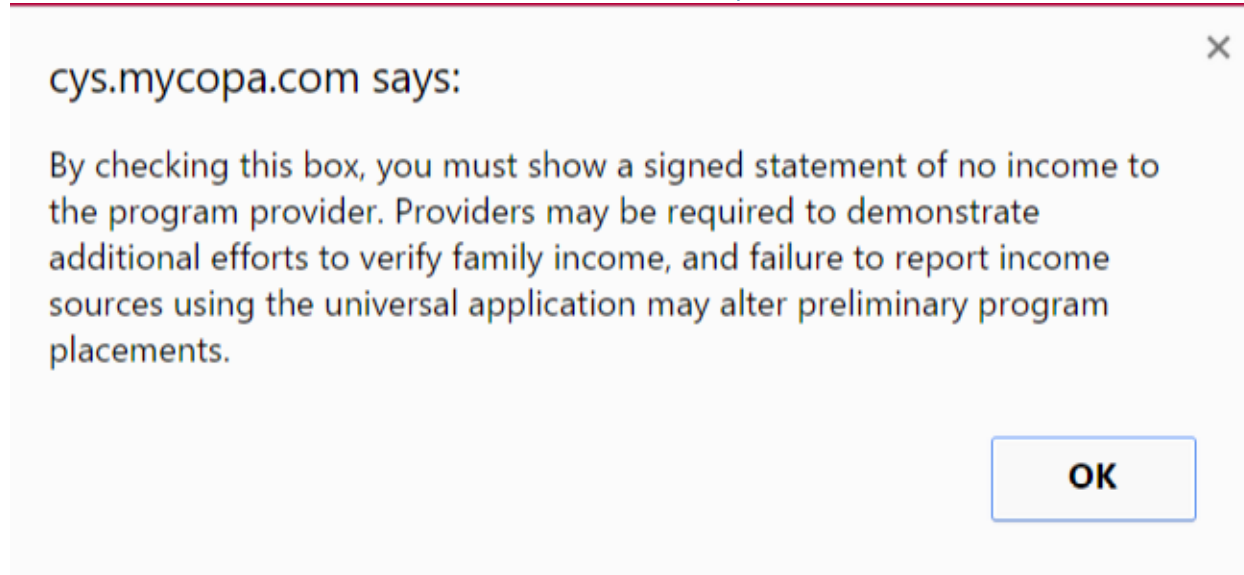
No Income <input type="checkbox"/>	Do you receive SSI? (No <input type="checkbox"/>)				Do you receive TANF? (No <input type="checkbox"/>)			
	Primary Caregiver				Secondary Caregiver			
Income	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Employment	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Child Support	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
SSI	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
TANF	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Other Federal Cash Income (For Example Social Security Payments for all Family Members and Railroad Retirement Benefits)	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Other Income	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Alimony	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
DCFS Adoption Assistance Payment	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Workers Compensation	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Social Security	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Disability	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Import Income	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Self-employment	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Unemployment Insurance Income	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Child Support Paid	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year	\$ 0	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x 12	per year
Other Income (enter label)	\$ 0.00	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x	per year	\$ 0.00	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x	per year
Housing Assistance (for federal purposes only list vouchers, etc. for the specific cash value)	\$ 0.00	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	x	per year				

Comments

Save and return to profile

Provide detailed information on all income taken in by the family. If a family notes they have no income, they will receive a prompt.

No Income Prompt



A family that checks a box indicating they have no income, they receive the following notification.

Return to the Family Portal

Welcome, Rebecca Planchard

There are three basic steps to completing your child's preschool application:

1. Click "Update Family Profile" and add general info, contact info, and income(s) for the child's caregiver(s).
2. Click "New Child Application" and complete information for the child wishing to attend preschool. You will be able to select 1-2 preschool sites and see your preliminary status at each before submission.
3. Click "Finalize and Submit Application."

Family Profile	
Primary Caregiver Name	Rebecca Planchard
Application Date	08-07-2017
Home Phone	(818) 415-2228
Cell Phone	
Email	rebecca.planchard@eduplanet.org
Address	33 NIDE AVE, Buena Vista, CA 95621
Date of Birth	05-15-1988
Gender	Female
Ethnicity / Race	Hispanic

1 Update Family Profile 2 Apply and Submit Application 3

Child Profile		
Application #	9034732	
Birthdate	01-21-2013	
Preferred Nursery School /	Desired Location	Application

2 New Child Application

Once income information is completed, return to the family portal and click on step two – entering in a new child application.

Child (Applicant) Information

Child (Applicant) Information

Child's First Name (Required)

M. Initial

Child's Last Name (Required)

Gender (Required)

Birth Date (Required)

Hours of Service Needed

Does child have a teen mom/parent?

Male

01-01-2013

From

To

No

Example: Enter 12/05/2014 for Dec 5, 2014

Is a language other than English spoken in your home? (Required)

Does your child speak a language other than English? (Required)

Yes

Yes

What Language?

What Language?

Spanish

Spanish

Home Language Survey

The state requires the district to collect a Home Language Survey for every new student. This information is used to count the students whose families speak a language other than English at home. It also helps to identify the students who need to be assessed for English language proficiency. If the answer to either question above is yes, the law requires the school to assess your child's English language proficiency. Please note that you will be required to answer the Home Language Survey questions on a paper form and sign and date it, as required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Ethnicity

Race (Required)

Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino

Caucasian

Does the child have a history of social services or DCFS involvement?

Has the child had exposure to death in the immediate family or experienced other childhood family trauma?

Does the child have (had) chronic health issues?

Disability Status

Filter Desired Sites By:

Please Select

Click here to search for your community area

Saved Choice 1: Fairyland Nursery School - Fairyland Nursery School

Saved Choice 2: Easter Seals Society of Metropolitan Chicago - Busy Bees Child Development

Save and return to profile

Return to profile without saving

Enter information on your child. At the bottom left, note that you are prompted to select up to two sites to apply to. If you have saved sites through the Find and Compare Tool on Chicagoeearlylearning.org, they will show up here. Otherwise, you can search by community area, or home zip code to find your preferred site.

Family Portal – Adding or editing children

Spanish Log Out

There are three basic steps to completing your child's preschool application:

1. Click "Update Family Profile" and add general info, contact info, and income(s) for the child's caregiver(s).
2. Click "New Child Application" and complete information for the child wishing to attend preschool. You will be able to select 1-2 preschool sites and see your preliminary status at each before submission.
3. Click "Finalize and Submit Application."

Family Profile

Primary Caregiver Name		Date of birth	05-10-1989
Application Date		Gender	Female
Home Phone		Ethnicity / Race	Caucasian
Cell Phone			
Email			
Address			

[Update Family Profile](#) [Finalize and Submit Application](#)

Child Profile

No	Name	Application ID	Birthdate	Desired Location	Application
1	P	9034732	01-01-2013	Fairland Nursery School /	Edit

[New Child Application](#)

If you need to add additional children, click the blue button again to add another application. If you need to edit an existing child's application, click on the green edit button by that child's name.

Family Portal – Submitting Application

Welcome, Rebecca Plamondon

There are three basic steps to completing your child's preschool application:

1. Click "Update Family Profile" and add general info, contact info, and license(s) for the child's caregiver(s).
2. Click "New Child Application" and complete information for the child visiting to attend preschool. You will be able to select 1-2 preschool sites and see your preliminary status at each before submission.
3. Click "Finalize and Submit Application."

Family Profile

Primary Caregiver Name: Rebecca Plamondon
Application Date: 04/05/2017
Home Phone: (819) 919-2298
Cell Phone:
Email: rebecca.plamondon@cityofthawick.org
Address: 213 W120 Pkwy, Box D, Apt 5H L, 00010

Child Profile

Child Name: Parvathi Pooni
Application #: 3094712
Birthdate: 04/15/2017
Preschool Nursery School: Parvathi Nursery School
Desired Location:
Application: ☐

Buttons:

- Update Family Profile
- Finalize and Submit Application
- New Child Application

When it is time to submit an application, meaning all children applying are entered and complete, press the Finalize and Submit Application button.

Submitting Application

Your child's eligibility for the available slots in the site(s) you have selected is as follows:

Center 1	Fairland Nursery School - Fairland Nursery School
Status	Offered
Center 2	Easter Seals Society of Metropolitan Chicago - Busy Bees Child Development
Status	

You can't change any information regarding your family and / or children after finalizing and submitting your application.
Are you sure you want to proceed and submit the application?

You will see immediately if your child will be offered or waitlisted for a slot prior to submitting the application. Once an application is submitted, no changes can be made online. After submitting the application, a family receives an email with further instructions regarding their offer or waitlist status with next steps.