



## Why is Pre-K important?

Pre-K is vitally important to a child's development and school readiness. Your child will have early language, literacy, and math experiences to better prepare them for academic rigor in later grades. Attending Pre-K also helps young student to gain a sense of self, exploration, discovery, and confidence. Judson ISD's program offers a safe environment, high-quality integrated curriculum, highly qualified teachers, and ongoing assessments with progress monitoring.

## Who can attend Pre-k?

According to the state of Texas, a child must be at least 4 years old on or before September 1, and meet one of the qualifying criteria. For more information about qualifying criteria, view the [link to qualify document](#).

## Why does my child have to qualify for Pre-K?

The Texas Legislature determines the eligibility requirements for free, public Pre-K in Texas. When the Texas legislature established the Pre-K program the intent was, and still is, to provide early learning experiences to students who are most at risk for school failure.

## What documents do I need to bring?

### All Qualifiers:

- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Address
- Parent ID
- Immunization Record

### Income Qualifiers:

One of the following

- Current paycheck stub
- Current tax return if self employed
- Current TANF or SNAP eligibility letter

### Language Qualifiers:

- Fill out Home Language Survey (provided by school)
- Language test will be administered to child

**Military Qualifiers:**

- One of the Following:
- Verification of U.S. Department of Defense photo I.D.
- Statement of service
- Copy of death certificate
- Copy of Purple Heart orders
- Copy of official letter from commander
- Copy of a letter from US Dept. of Veteran's Affairs
- Documentation that service member is MIA

**Star of Texas Award Qualifiers:**

- Copy of the resolution (certificate) awarded to parent of child

## What is the income level for a household to qualify for Pre-K?

The income level is based on the [National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\) income eligibility guidelines](#) established annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## Does a foster care student have to be currently in foster care to be eligible for Pre-K?

No.

Students who are in or who have ever been in the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) (i.e., in foster care) following an adversary hearing are eligible for free Pre-K. These students include not only students who are in or who have ever been in DFPS conservatorship but also students who have been adopted or returned to their parents after having been in DFPS conservatorship.

## May a child who is five years old on September 1 be enrolled in Pre-K?

No.

A child who is five years of age on September 1 of the current school year is not eligible for enrollment in a Pre-K class.

A child who is five years of age on September 1 of the current school year should be enrolled in kindergarten.

May eligible students be excluded from eligibility if they are not potty trained or have frequent bathroom accidents?

No.

Qualifying students may not be excluded from Pre-K because a child is not potty trained. However, if your child is not fully potty trained, you are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the school to determine how to meet the needs of your child during the school day.

If my child is eligible for special education due to having a disability, are they automatically eligible for Pre-K as well?

No.

A child with a disability is eligible for Pre-K only if he or she meets the criteria for Pre-K set forth by the Texas Education Code.

When can I register my child for Pre-K?

Judson ISD will be hosting early registration for Pre-K at all elementary schools on April 15, 22, and 29. Campuses will be open until 6:00 pm. You will also be able to enroll at the elementary campuses during regular business hours after April 15.

Is Pre-K full day or half day?

Starting with the 2019-2020 school year, all Judson ISD Pre-K classes will be full day.