

Georgia's Pre-K Program FAQ for 2023 – 2024 School Year

Updated 6/15/2023

Pre-K Budget for 2023-2024

What is the salary increase for Georgia's Pre-K lead and assistant teachers?

The Pre-K budget includes an increase of \$2,000 for lead and assistant teacher base salary. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, providers will be required to pay all lead teachers 100% of the base salary.

Will payments for operating costs be prorated based on student enrollment?

A decision on per child proration of payments for classes with fewer than 20 students will be made after the Roster 1 data has been reviewed. Roster 1 will be due in September.

Note: The August and September payments for all providers will be based on the number of students on the Grant Agreement and verified lead teacher credentials in PANDA.

What is the operating classroom increase for school year 2023 – 2024?

The ANNUAL classroom operating increase is \$3,676.16 per classroom. The amount is consistent across program type and zone.

Class Size Reduction Pilot

What is the class size for the 2023-2024 school year?

During school year 2023-2024, DECAL will be conducting a class size reduction pilot. Currently, the maximum class size for a Pre-K class is 22 students; the pilot will support reducing class size to 20 students. Full payment for a class will be based on enrollment of 20 – 22 students.

- Continuation Classes: Full class enrollment will be considered 20 - 22 students for continuation classes.
- Expansion Classes: Expansion class(es) can serve a maximum of 20 students.
- New Classes: Newly funded classes can serve a maximum of 20 students.

My 2023-2024 Pre-K Grant agreement shows a class size of 22 students. Should it indicate 20 for class size?

All 2023-2024 Pre-K Grant Agreements show a class size of 22 students. However, providers should plan to enroll 20 – 22 students based on the pilot DECAL is conducting in the 2023-2024 school year. Although the class size reduction pilot is based on a class size of 20, programs may determine the actual class size based on the needs of their program and families.

How should programs determine class size for continuation classrooms for the 2023 – 2024 school year?

Consider the following guidance when making your decision:

- If your current registration for the upcoming school year is 20 or less, you should plan to enroll up to 20 students.
- If you have one class with 22 students registered, you should plan to serve all students and then reduce to 20 or 21 if a student(s) withdraws.
- If you have multiple classes, you should distribute students across classrooms to stabilize class size at 20 (or close to 20).

Are programs required to submit a request to reduce the class size from 22 to 20?

It is not necessary to submit a request to reduce the class size to 20.

If a program enrolls 22 students in a Pre-K class, will the class receive additional funding? If a program enrolls 20 students in a Pre-K class, will the class receive reduced funding?

No, enrollment of 20 – 22 students will be considered full enrollment for the 2023 – 2024 school year. No increase in funding will be paid for over 20 students. No decrease in funding will be paid for serving 21 or 20 students.

What is the class size for inclusion classes in the 2023-2024 school year?

The maximum class size will remain at 18 students per class.