



1. Who is eligible for Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) 2023-2024 school year?

Any child residing within the East Rockaway School District who will turn 4 by Dec. 1, 2023, with a birth date between Dec. 2, 2018, and Dec. 1, 2019. We cannot allow any exceptions to this requirement.

2. Is there before/after school care available for UPK?

No, we do not offer a before or after school program for UPK students.

3. Will transportation be provided?

No, parents/guardians will be responsible for transportation to and from the program.

4. Is the UPK program half day or full day?

The program is five hours per day (9am-2pm) Monday through Friday and follows the East Rockaway School District calendar. The UPK program has no cost to families. The program is run by SCOPE and supervised by the East Rockaway School District.

5. If I register my child online, are they guaranteed a placement in the program?

No. There are 30 seats available in our UPK program. If more than 30 children register for UPK, there will be a lottery held in public on February 16, 2023, in the Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium at 4:00 p.m. A waitlist will be created after 30 students are chosen.

6. What is the deadline for the UPK Interest application form?

All online entries must be received by February 14, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. to be entered into the lottery.

7. If I have multiple children and one gets into the program through the lottery will the other child(ren) be admitted as well?

No, all names will be entered into the drawing and only the names drawn will be granted admittance. Also note: multiple children in the same family are NOT guaranteed placement in the same building.

8. How will I know if my child has been chosen?

Parents of children selected for the UPK program will be notified in writing within one week of the drawing.

9. Will lunch be provided?

Yes, lunch is provided daily at no additional cost to families.

10. Will have the option to pay tuition (self-pay) for a Pre-kindergarten seat if I am on the waitlist?

Yes, there will be three (3) seats available for tuition (self-pay) in each school. Each tuition seat is payable directly to SCOPE on a first come, first served basis. You must contact SCOPE directly to create an account and sign a tuition contract.

11. Where will the UPK program be housed?

Each elementary school (Centre Avenue & Rhame Avenue) will have one UPK class. Each of these two (2) classes will have up to 18 students (15 UPK and 3 self-pay) as per NYS Early Childhood Regulations.

12. Will my child attend the UPK program closes to their house?

We cannot guarantee placement in a particular building. When registering your child, you can indicate your preferred school location based on your home address, and we will make every attempt to accommodate your request.

13. What type of curriculum is taught in the program?

Any provider contracted by the East Rockaway School District, including SCOPE, must provide a curriculum that meets all New York State Standards for Early Childhood Education. Please contact SCOPE directly for specific questions about the curriculum.

14. How can I find out if an opening becomes available during the school year?

All students not selected in the lottery for a UPK slot will receive a number and will be added to a waitlist. If a student withdraws from the UPK program at any point during the school year, that seat will go to the next interested child on the waitlist. The district will contact the family by phone to offer the seat, and an email notification will be sent with a copy of the registration packet.



For other questions, please contact our registration office via email:

REGISTRATIONS@EASTROCKAWAYSCHOOLS.ORG, or

Phone: 516-887-8300, Option 1, Ext. 433