

Prekindergarten Program Requirements Overview

- Program offerings
- Notification of programs
- Funding
- Instructional minutes
- High-quality components
- Data reporting



This document is meant to serve as an **overview** of the **major** program requirements for a public prekindergarten program. It is not meant to serve as a comprehensive checklist or alignment document for statutory requirements.

Program Offerings

TEC §29.153 (a-1)

A district shall offer prekindergarten classes if a district identifies 15 or more eligible children who are at least four years of age by September 1 of the current school year. *

A school district may offer prekindergarten classes if the district identifies 15 or more eligible children who are at least three years of age.



***tuition may not be charged for a prekindergarten class under this section**

Notification of Programs

TEC § 29.153 (e)

Each school district shall develop a system to notify the population in the district with children who are eligible for enrollment in a prekindergarten class under this section of the availability of the class. The system must include public notices issued in *English* and *Spanish*.

Notification may include, but is not limited to the following options:

- A written letter sent home with students
- Identification systems during registration for older siblings
- Newspaper articles
- Notices in public places
- Radio announcements
- Displays on school marquee
- Community newsletters
- Social media announcements

Prekindergarten Funding

Districts can receive half-day average daily attendance (ADA) funding through the Foundation School Program (FSP).

Funding for the second half of the day will need to come from another funding source.

Options for other possible funding sources include:

- Early education allotment
- Compensatory education
- Title I

For more information please visit the ECE Requirements and Regulations webpage or review the Student Attendance and Accounting Handbook, section 3.2.2.



Instructional Minutes

Full Day PreK Requirement:

75,600 OPERATIONAL minutes yearly (includes intermissions, meals, recess, and rest time)

Half-Day PreK Requirement:

32,400 INSTRUCTIONAL minutes (includes intermissions, meals, and recess, ***but excludes rest time***)

*Remember, all eligible four-year-olds must be enrolled in full-day programs.

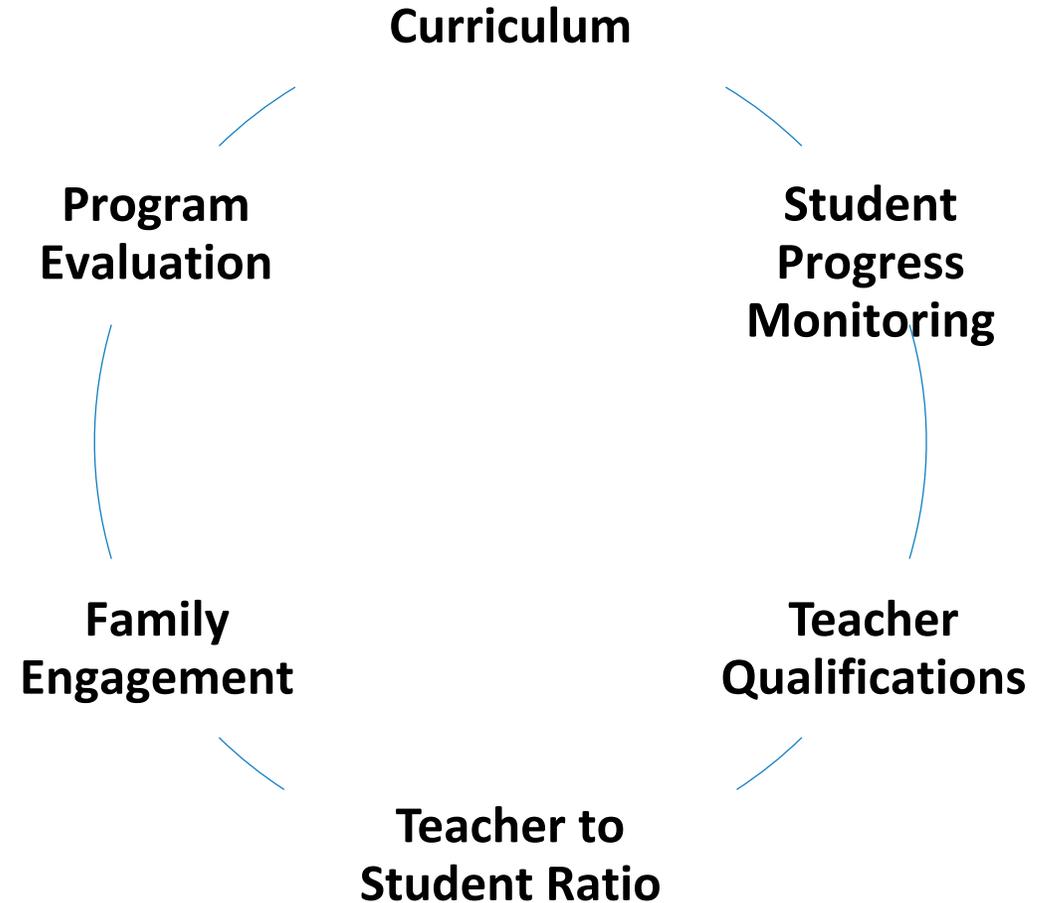
For more information please review the Student Attendance and Accounting Handbook,
Section 3.8.

High-Quality Prekindergarten Components

TEC §29.153 (c-1)

A prekindergarten class under this section for children who are at least four years of age must comply with the program standards required for high quality prekindergarten programs.

The high-quality program standards (also known as high-quality components) include:



High-Quality Prekindergarten Components

The high-quality program standards (also known as high-quality components) apply to *all* prekindergarten programs serving eligible four-year-olds.

Districts

TEC §29.153 (c) (c-1)

Districts of Innovation

TEC §12A.004 (a)(1)

Open-enrollment Charters

TEC §12.104 (b)(3)(H)



Data Reporting

Districts that offer prekindergarten are also required to report data to PEIMS and ECDS.

PEIMS= Public Education Information Management System

ECDS= Early Childhood Data System

Purpose= To better inform families, school administrators, educators, community stakeholders, and policy makers about the effectiveness of specific programs.

Full details regarding the state reporting data standards can be accessed by viewing the [Texas Education Data Standards](#) webpage or [TWEDS, the web-based version](#).

TEC §29.1532(c)

TEC §29.161

TEC §29.167 -170

TEC §42.006