

DCE 4K Program
D.C. Everest Area Schools
Questions & Answers

*Please revisit this document periodically
as updates will be made.*



1. Q: What is a community based 4K program?

A: In a community based 4K program, four-year-olds receive pre-kindergarten instruction in a child care center or private/public preschool. A Wisconsin certified licensed teacher, hired by the provider, conducts a two hour and forty minute program five days a week. A teacher's assistant helps facilitate learning in each session. School District funds support the 4K program at the child care or private/public preschool site. Families may then choose to have their child(ren) participate in additional private -pay child care or other services provided at day care licensed sites for the rest of the day.

2. Q: Will there be a charge for 4K?

A: Like K-5 elementary school, 4K is offered at no cost.

3. Q: Will there be transportation for 4K?

A: Yes, transportation will be provided for those who require it. Generally students requiring transportation will attend the 4K program during an a.m. session.

4. Q: How do I know what 4K site my child will be in?

A: If parents will be transporting their child to and from the site, they may register their child at a site that is convenient for them. We will attempt to honor such preferences, but cannot guarantee a specific site. Also, it is our desire that children who currently attend a given site for childcare remain there for 4K. Registration forms will be time and date stamped so it is important for those indicating a site preference to submit their registration in a timely manner.

If the parent requires bussing to and from the site, they should register their child at a site within their attendance area. Bussing attendance areas and a list of sites are indicated on our 4K brochure. These are available at our 4K sites as well as all school offices.

We plan to notify families of site placement by mail before the end of April.

5. Q: Will the 4K bus routes include K-5 grade students?

A: No, 4K students who ride the bus will ride only with other 4K students.

6. Q: What will the District do to keep my 4 year old safe on the bus and at pickup and drop off?

A: We will require an adult that you deem responsible, have visual contact of your child when picked up or dropped off by the bus. All 4K students will have a wristband with key information listed including name, address, phone, and homeroom. We will ask you to identify that person when you enroll your child. The 4K children will also be required to ride in the front of the bus and they will be checked ON and OFF the bus by the driver and their

teacher once at the 4K site. The bus will **not** drop off your child unless the receiving adult is within close visual contact.

7. Q: When do the 4K sessions run? Will there be A.M. and P.M. sessions?

A: There will be morning and afternoon sessions. The 4K Program meets five half-days per week (two hours and forty minutes per session). Most sites offer morning and afternoon sessions, but this will depend upon enrollment. Start and end times at each site may vary, so please contact the site for specifics.

8. Q: Will there be an orientation for my 4K child?

A: Yes, in August each site will host an open-house for enrolled children. This will be a time for parents and children to visit their classroom and meet their teacher. Parents will receive more information about open-house once enrollments are completed.

9. Q: What will my child learn in 4K?

A: At each 4K site, a licensed teacher implements The Creative Curriculum For Preschool in order to provide consistent learning experiences in the areas of Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Language Development, Social-Emotional Development, Cognitive Development, Physical Development, The Arts, and English Language Acquisition.

10. Q: How can I learn more about the standards that will support the 4K program?

A: The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is aligned with the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS) as well as with the Common Core State Standards.

You can learn more about these alignments by going to

<https://www.teachingstrategies.com/page/GOLD-assessment-online.cfm#alignments>

11. Q: How many students will be in each session?

A: Our goal is to limit enrollment in each session to 17 students. The number of sessions of 4K will be determined by the number of children enrolled in the 4K program district-wide.

12. Q: Who will teach 4K?

A: The teachers are hired and supervised by the site at which the session is held. Teachers that teach 4K are licensed Wisconsin teachers and must have the appropriate license to teach preschool-aged children.

13. Q: What if my child will be four after September 1st?

A: There will be **NO** early admission to 4K for the upcoming school year. However, check with area site providers to inquire about other preschool offerings.

14. Q: How will emergency weather situations be addressed at each site? How will security be addressed at each site?

A: 1. Weather situations will be addressed using the Emergency/Inclement Weather form completed by parents at the time of registration. If there is early dismissal, the plans on this form will be followed.

2. School closings and delayed starts will be announced with regular district announcements on both television and the District website.
3. If there is a delayed start there will be no sessions of 4K.

Each 4K site will have emergency plans that include, fire, tornado, medical, and intruder situations. These procedures will be part of each site's handbook. 4K staff and students will practice these drills.

15. Q: How soon do I need to decide if I want to send my child to Community Based 4K?

A: We would like to have all interested families registered during the second full week of February. However, if you decide at a later time, please contact a partnering agency convenient to you (see brochure).

16. Q: How will parents be involved?

A: Parent Outreach is an integral part of the 4K experience and will serve as an important step toward each child's success in school. It will take on many different forms, some of which are:

- Orientation – before the first day of school.
- Classroom helpers/volunteers
- Literacy nights
- Curriculum night
- Cooking
- Fitness
- Arts and Crafts
- Other activities as planned.

17. Q: Is 4K voluntary or mandatory?

A: 4K is a voluntary program and not subject to mandatory attendance. However, we would anticipate that you would send your child to class each day unless your child is ill or otherwise excused.

18. Q: Will there be before and/or after school day care?

A: Yes, there will be before and after day care at most sites. Please inquire about your before and after care needs at the time of registration.

19. Q: If a child is age eligible for 5K, but parents plan to delay their kindergarten enrollment, can the child attend 4K?

A: The DC Everest school district supports having children progress with same-age peers. However, in unique situations, parents may decide enrollment in 4K is best for their child. In these cases, since the child has reached the minimum age prior to September 1, they will be eligible to enroll in the 4K program. However, it is important for parents to understand that state statutes say their child **MUST** complete the 5K program prior to enrolling in grade 1. Therefore, this decision should be made carefully.

20. Q: We reside outside the DC Everest school district, but would like my child to attend DCE 4K. What should I do?

A: In this situation parents would need to apply for "open enrollment". Information about this process can be found at:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

Parents may apply for open enrollment typically beginning the first week of February and ending the last day of April. Families will be notified by mail if their application has been approved or denied. Most parents will choose to wait until they find out if their open enrollment application is approved before completing the DCE 4K registration forms. However, if a parent chooses to complete the DCE 4K registration forms prior to open enrollment approval, they should indicate that their child's home elementary school is "other district". In this case the registration will be held until an approval or denial is issued on the open enrollment application.

21. Q: What school supplies will my child need?

A: Contact the 4K site your child will be attending for a list of supplies your child will need.

22. Q: What do I need to bring when registering my child for 4K?

A: Parents should bring the original birth certificate to verify name and date of birth, immunization records, and name and phone numbers for doctors, dentists, emergency contacts, etc. The forms take approximately 30-40 minutes to complete.