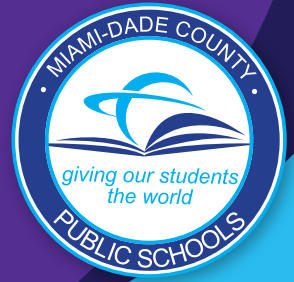


Early Childhood Programs



Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) and Jackson Health System have partnered to share information on the importance of high-quality education from an early age and highlight programs available to families in our community.

Why do high-quality early childhood programs matter?

- ✧ Research has demonstrated the critical importance of the first five years of a child's life to brain development. The experiences and interactions children have in these early years help to establish the foundation for future learning.
- ✧ High-quality early learning programs, such as those offered at M-DCPS, will stimulate your child's rapidly growing brain, which is 85% developed by the age of 5.

Providing your young child with an early start in a high-quality learning environment at M-DCPS will ensure the social-emotional and readiness skills necessary to succeed in school and beyond.



Health Jackson
Children's Care



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS
where learning begins...



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What does M-DCPS offer by age?

★ M-DCPS offers various stimulating early learning programs that focus on social-emotional, language and cognitive development and prepare young learners for school readiness.



Age 0-2 | Early Head Start*

M-DCPS offers free infant and toddler programs for children from birth to age 2 from income-eligible families in select schools across Miami-Dade County. Families can apply online at headstart.dadeschools.net or in person at one of the schools offering the program. Applications are accepted year-round.

Age 3 | Head Start*

The M-DCPS Head Start program provides full-day education health, nutrition, and family engagement services to children beginning at age 3. Income-eligible families can apply online at headstart.dadeschools.net or in person at one of the schools offering the program. Applications are accepted year-round.

Age 3 | Inclusion/Reverse Mainstream

The Department of Early Childhood Programs offers placement for 3-year-old children in their Pre-K special education inclusion and reverse mainstream programs across the District. This program provides a free, full-day opportunity for qualifying students to serve as role models.

Age 4 | Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten

The Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program (VPK) is a free educational program designed to prepare 4- and 5-year-olds for kindergarten and build the foundation for their academic success. M-DCPS VPK programs can be found in over 200 public schools across Miami-Dade County.

*Funded by Miami Dade County Community Action & Human Services Department (CAHSD) Head Start/Early Head Start

Who to contact?



For more information, visit the Department of Early Childhood Programs at <https://earlychildhood.dadeschools.net> or call at 305-995-7632.