

**NC Pre-K Payment Rates by Site Type and Guidance
August 2015**

Head Start Programs and Head Start programs administered by a Public School sites - Maximum NC Pre-K Rate \$400 regardless of Lead and Substitute Lead qualifications.

Public Schools - Maximum NC Pre-K Rate \$473 regardless of Lead and Substitute Lead qualifications.

Private Programs

Lead teacher and Long Term Substitute Lead Teacher Groupings for Rates.

Highest Degree	Teacher License	Grouping	Actual NC Pre-K Rate
BA/BS or higher	B-K License	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	NC Lateral Entry BK License	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	B-K Standard Prof II	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	B-K Standard Prof I	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	Provisional B-K License	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	Provisional Pre-School Add-on	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	Pre-School Add-on	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	Other State Teacher's License	BK or higher	\$650
BA/BS or higher	Other NC Teacher's License	BK or higher	\$650

Highest Degree	Teacher License	Grouping	Actual NC Pre-K Rate
BA/BS or higher	Holds no License and is Working towards B-K License	Less than BK	\$600

Highest Degree	Teacher License	Grouping	NC Pre-K Rate
AA / AAS	NC Early Childhood Credential, Other, None, CDA or working towards B-K License/Preschool Add-On	Less than BA/BS and less than BK	\$550

DCDEE may grant exceptions to Contractors on a case by case basis for the above rates.

Any requests for exception to rate of reimbursement for a site or for a teacher should be sent to Cindy Wheeler, Early Education Unit (NC Pre-K/EESLPD Office) Manager, cindy.wheeler@dhhs.nc.gov. An 'exception' is defined as requesting a reimbursement payment for more than the approved caps: \$473 in public schools or \$400 per month in Head

Start, or paying a rate other than \$650/\$600 in private sites. A lower rate can be negotiated in public schools or Head Start programs without review by DCDEE.

Teachers should only be listed in the NC Pre-K Plan as having the BK License or other license if the NC Pre-K contract administrator has verified the actual license. Verification is defined as “having a copy of the license on file.” Licenses include a NC Lateral Entry BK License, a NC Provisional BK or Preschool Add-on License, a NC BK License SP I, a NC BK SP II License or another state’s license (which will qualify teacher for a Provisional BK Add-on license).

Payment should be made at the higher BK rate of \$650 per month if the license has been verified. If the effective date precedes the issue/received date, the reimbursement rate may be adjusted by submitting revised attendance sheets and summary sheets for the months in question, including the reason for the prior month adjustment. Submit this to the attention of the DCDEE Budget Officer. For a teacher holding an expired NC or other state license the higher reimbursement rate (\$650) is recommended, as long as the teacher is enrollment with the EESLPD Office is verified through the NC Pre-K Plan. The expired license will be submitted to the NCDPI Licensure Section with a request to reinstate.

If the license is not reinstated by the NCDPI, the site administrator will be notified that the teacher will no longer qualify as the lead teacher of the NC Pre-K classroom. A qualified teacher or substitute would need to be hired.

If necessary, follow the instructions above for reimbursement of the additional \$50 if the re-issue date is back dated

Guidance

Any approved exception rates that were approved during the previous NC Pre-K Program year will roll over into the next year’s NC Pre-K Plan unless the contract administrator submits a written request to Cindy Wheeler at cindy.wheeler@dhhs.nc.gov.

Only new exception rates will have to be approved. The local contract administrator will need to send a request to cindy.wheeler@dhhs.nc.gov that provides the following information. **Note:** exception rate requests may be submitted at any time; however, the request needs to be submitted as early as possible so that the correct rates will be in the NC Pre-K Plan when children are entered into NC Pre-K Kids.

Required Information for Exception Rate Requests:

- Why the rate is being requested and that it has been approved by the local Committee (e.g., To meet legislative mandate for teacher salary increase; salary increase for licensed teachers in public and/or private sites due to licensure status, etc.)
- How this will impact the number of children served (e.g., maintain contracted numbers, decrease/increase in contracted numbers and why this is needed)
- Any other pertinent information that may help to clarify/confirm request for a rate exception.

- Once the exception rate request is received, Cindy Wheeler will respond with an approval or a request for additional information with a copy to Sharon Johnson who will adjust the newly approved rate(s).
- After Sharon Johnson enters the new rate(s) in the NC Pre-K Plan she will confirm the change with the local contracting agency or seek additional information, as needed to complete the approval.

Sample 1:

_____ County would like to request an exception to the NC Pre-K approved rates as follows:

Requested Rates (2015-16):	Slots	Total Rate	NC Pre-K	Smart Start	Total Budget
ABC County Public Schools:	126	647	627	20	815,220
DEF County Public Schools:	95	558	538	20	530,100
GHI Development Center:	36	633	613	20	<u>227,880</u>
					1,573.200

Attached is a copy of the documentation submitted with our survey to support the rate increase. Should you have any questions or need further explanation, do not hesitate to contact me.

_____, Local NC Contract Administrator

Sample 2:

The local _____ County Pre-K Committee in consultation with our agency, _____, are requesting the following rate changes to help offset increases in teacher salaries for SFY 15-16:

Private Child Care:	\$650 to \$678
Head Start:	\$300 to \$312.80
Public School:	\$473 to \$475.37

Current enrollment will be maintained. Funds will not be used to increase the number of NC Pre-K students served.

_____, Local Contract Administrator

Sample 3:

_____ County NC Pre-K Advisory Committee is requesting a rate exception for public schools from \$473 to \$478. The expansion funds will be used to cover this difference in rates. The Committee meets again on September 24th and would like to resolve the rate issue at that time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information. Thank you.

_____, Local Contract Administrator