



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# News Release

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## WAKE COUNTY PRE-KINDERGARTEN APPLICATION CENTER



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## Pre-Kindergarten Application Process 2015-2016

RALEIGH – [Wake County SmartStart](#) (WCSS) is accepting applications for Wake County Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) Programs including NC Pre-K, Title I and Head Start. Wake County Pre-K programs are publicly funded. They prepare children for school by using a curriculum that enhances children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual well-being.

**To be considered for 2015-2016 Wake County Pre-K Programs, the child must be 4 years old on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.** Applications for **Title I** must be completed by the child's parent or guardian and received by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. After April 30<sup>th</sup>, applications will only be considered for NC Pre-K and Head Start. The application is located on the WCSS website at [www.wakesmartstart.org](http://www.wakesmartstart.org). The following is required for a complete application:

- Copy of child's birth certificate
- Proof of residence\* (**current** light/water bill or lease agreement)
- Proof of all income\*\*(two **consecutive** check stubs for each employed parent/guardian, child support, retirement, worker's compensation, statement from supervisor, 2014 IRS 1040, unemployment, social security)
- Documentation of child's additional needs (ex. parents in military service, developmental, educational or chronic health concerns)

*\*Reside with another family? Bring a notarized statement from the homeowner and a copy of their current light/water bill.*

*\*\*Title I does not require proof of income. It is required for all other Pre-Kindergarten programs.*

Pre-K placements are made based on program specific factors, not on a first-come, first-served basis. Wake County Pre-K classrooms are located in public schools, in Head Start centers and in high quality child care facilities. Participation is voluntary.

**Only complete applications will be accepted.** To assist families with the application process, Wake County SmartStart and its community partners are holding application events around Wake County beginning in January. Click [here](#) for a complete list of those application events, or visit [www.wakesmartstart.org](http://www.wakesmartstart.org). For general information about Wake County Pre-K, families can call Wake County SmartStart's Pre-K information lines at 919-723-9298 for English or 919-723-9299 for Spanish.

### About Wake County SmartStart

Wake County SmartStart works to ensure children, birth to five, are prepared for success in school and in life. This mission is carried out in four goal areas; children are in safe, supportive home environments, children are in high quality care that contributes to positive child outcomes, children are healthy and ready for school and children and families are supported by a strong, diverse integrated early childhood system. To learn more about our mission, visit [www.wakesmartstart.org](http://www.wakesmartstart.org).