

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

HB3 | FULL-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN

SUMMARY

House Bill 3 requires that full-day prekindergarten be provided for all eligible four-year old students. Prekindergarten may be operated on a half-day basis for children under four years of age.

EXEMPTION CONDITIONS

Exemptions may be granted if it is determined that:

1. The local education agency (LEA) (a school district or open-enrollment charter school) would be required to construct classroom facilities in order to provide prekindergarten classes; or
2. Implementation would result in fewer eligible children being enrolled in prekindergarten.

An LEA may not receive an exemption unless the LEA has solicited and considered at a public meeting the following:

- Proposals for partnerships with public or private entities regarding offering full-day prekindergarten for eligible four-year-old students.

Additionally, before a district or open-enrollment charter school may construct, repurpose, or lease a classroom facility, or issue bonds for the construction or repurposing of a classroom facility, the district or charter school must solicit and consider proposals for partnerships with public or private community-based childcare providers who meet **one** of the following status requirements:

- Texas Rising Star program providers with a three-star certification or higher;
- nationally accredited;
- Head Start program providers;
- Texas School Ready! Participants; or
- meet the requirements under Texas Education Code Section 29.1532:
 - If a school district contracts with a private entity for the operation of the district's prekindergarten program, the program must at a minimum comply with the applicable child-care licensing standards adopted by the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services under Section 42.042, Human Resources Code.

A decision of the board of trustees or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school regarding a partnership described above is final.

EXEMPTION OPTIONS

If the above conditions are met, LEAs may apply for a one-, two-, or three-year exemption. An exemption may not be granted for a period longer than three school years and may be renewed only once.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Exemptions will be available in January 2020. More information will be forthcoming.

For additional information, please contact the Early Childhood Education Division at the Texas Education Agency at earlychildhoodeducation@tea.texas.gov.

FULL-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN | SUMMARY OF EXEMPTION OPTIONS

YEAR	ONE-YEAR EXEMPTION (2019-2020)	TWO-YEAR EXEMPTION (2019-2020 AND 2020-2021)	THREE-YEAR EXEMPTION (2019-2020, 2020-2021, AND 2021-2022)
2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR	<p>Gather data to inform method of providing full-day prekindergarten.</p> <p>Solicit and consider proposals at a public meeting for partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>After receiving and considering partnership proposals, make decision to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish partnerships with eligible early learning centers and/or ○ Construct, repurpose, or lease new space, or issue bonds to construct or repurpose space. 	<p>Gather data to inform method of providing full-day prekindergarten.</p> <p>Solicit and consider proposals at a public meeting for partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>After receiving and considering partnership proposals, make decision to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish partnerships with eligible early learning centers and/or ○ Construct, repurpose, or lease new space, or issue bonds to construct or repurpose space. 	<p>Gather data to inform method of providing full-day prekindergarten.</p> <p>Solicit and consider proposals at a public meeting for partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>After receiving and considering partnership proposals, make decision to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish partnerships with eligible early learning centers and/or ○ Construct, repurpose, or lease new space, or issue bonds to construct or repurpose space.
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR	<p>Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year-old students or apply for exemption renewal.</p>	<p>If necessary, hold an additional public meeting to solicit partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for some eligible four-year-old students through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least one partnership with an early learning center, and/or ○ At least one constructed, repurposed, or leased classroom(s) 	<p>If necessary, hold an additional public meeting to solicit partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for some eligible four-year-old students through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least one partnership with an early learning center, and/or ○ At least one constructed, repurposed, or leased classroom(s)
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR		<p>Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year old students or apply for exemption renewal.</p>	<p>If necessary, hold an additional public meeting for partnerships with eligible early learning centers.</p> <p>Increase full-day prekindergarten opportunities for eligible four-year old students through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least one additional partnership with an early learning center, and/or ○ At least one additional constructed, repurposed, or leased classroom(s)
2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR			<p>Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year old students or apply for exemption renewal.</p>

FULL-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN ONE-YEAR EXEMPTION (2019-2020)

With a one-year exemption, LEAs will begin providing full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year-old students at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

2019-2020 School Year

LEAs must:

- Gather data to inform method of providing full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year-old students in 2020-2021
 - This data must include, at a minimum, the total number of additional classrooms needed to serve all eligible four-year-old students
- Hold a public meeting to solicit and consider proposals for partnerships with eligible early learning centers
- After receiving, reviewing, and considering partnership proposals, make decision to:
 - Establish partnerships with eligible early learning centers **and/or**
 - Construct, repurpose, or lease new space, or issue bonds to construct or lease new space

2020-2021 School Year

LEAs must:

- Begin offering full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year old students
- Apply for an exemption renewal if unable to begin offering full-day prekindergarten for all eligible four-year old students as indicated in the original one-year exemption application