

The primary source of Pre-K funding is through the Foundation School Program, the formulas and laws used to fund the maintenance and operation of Texas schools.

School districts receive state funding for a **half-day instruction**, meaning about four hours a day of Pre-K. In 2019, the legislature mandated that every district provide a full-day of Pre-K instruction for four-year-old students. However, funding remains at half-day levels. **Unfunded mandate**

**Challenge: - funding is through ADA and PreK3 & 4 Programs seem to see the lowest attendance.**

Texas public school districts can receive state funding (Average Daily Attendance/ADA funds) for eligible 3-year-olds in prekindergarten, **provided they have at least 15 eligible students**. While districts are required to serve eligible 4-year-olds, serving 3-year-olds is optional. Brackett ISD did include PreK in the round-up process. **We are pending to see enrollment accounts.**

### **Key Funding & Eligibility Details for PK3 (3-Year-Old Pre-K):**

**Eligibility Criteria:** A 3-year-old must be 3 on or before September 1 and meet at least one criterion: low income (free/reduced lunch), homelessness, foster care, military family, limited English proficiency, or parent was awarded the Star of Texas.

**Funding Type:** Eligible 3-year-olds generate half-day ADA funds from the Foundation School Program (FSP).

**Optional Programs:** If a district can not offer a free program, or for students who are not eligible, **some schools offer tuition-based PK3.**

**Special Education:** If a 3-year-old is eligible for Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) services, they may be placed in a pre-k program, which can draw on additional funding sources