



# It's Time to Register for Kindergarten

Registration for new students or students entering public school kindergarten in fall 2026 begins the week of March 2, 2026 in all Howard County public elementary schools at times determined by individual schools.

**Kindergarten is mandatory in Maryland. State law requires that children entering kindergarten in the fall of 2026 must be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2026. Children entering first grade in the fall of 2026 must be 6 years old on or before September 1, 2026. For details about registration and enrollment, visit [www.hcpss.org/enroll/](http://www.hcpss.org/enroll/).**

Parents or guardians are to register students at the school currently serving the address where the child's parent or guardian resides. Parents may check the School Locator and School Transportation link on the school system website, [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org), or call the Public Information Office at 410-313-6600 for information on which school serves their neighborhood.

The parent or guardian must present the following information at the time of registration:

- The child's evidence of birth
- An authorized record of immunizations
- Proof of residency in the form of a lease, a deed and a utility bill
- Photo ID of the parent/guardian
- Proof of custody

Driver's licenses and voter registration cards will not be accepted as proof of residence. State law prohibits a child from attending school for even one day unless proof of immunization has been provided. Immunization and health forms are available online at <https://www.hcpss.org/health/#forms> or at each elementary school.

Families who need language support during the registration process should contact the Multilingual Family Registration Center at 410-313-1297. Families who require interpreter services can contact the following Multilingual Call Center lines for assistance:

Centro de llamas – 410-313-1591

전화 문의 센터 – 410-313-1592

电话服务中心 – 410-313-5920

Biakchawnkhawhnak Hmun – 410-313-5968

