The first day of kindergarten in Boston Public Schools typically begins on the Monday following Labor Day, but some schools may begin earlier. Visit our Boston Public Schools Countdown to Kindergarten website for updated information.

**Boston Public Schools Countdown to Kindergarten**

**Transportation**
(617) 635-6788

**Special Education**
(617) 635-7750

**Newcomer Assessment and Counseling Center**
(617) 635-1565

**Health Services**
(617) 635-6788

**Food and Nutrition Services**
(617) 635-9144

**English Language Learners**
(617) 635-8599

**Boston School Committee**
(617) 635-9014

**Online Pre-registration**
https://sis.mybps.org/aspen/index.html

**Online Pre-registration**
https://sis.mybps.org

**2** Get Ready For Kindergarten!

**3** Visit Your New School

**4** Register for School 2016-2017

**5** Visit a Welcome Center (WC)

**Schools**

**Checklist**

**STEP 1:** To get your list of schools, visit: www.discoverBPS.org

**STEP 2:** Pre-register using our new online SIS System https://sis.mybps.org/aspen/index.html

**STEP 3:** Bring the following documents:
- Child’s original birth certificate, I-94 form or passport
- Child’s up-to-date immunization record
- Parent/Guardian’s photo identification
- A utility bill (not water or cell phone) dated within the past 60 days
- A current lease, Section 8 agreement, or BPS residency affidavit
- A deed or a mortgage statement dated within the past 60 days, or a property tax bill dated within the last year
- A W2 form dated within the past 60 days, or a payroll stub dated within the past 60 days
- A letter from an approved government agency dated within the past 60 days
- A bank or credit card statement dated within the past 60 days

**November - January**

**First Round Registration – Jan. 4 - 29, 2016**

**February**

**Second Round Registration – Feb. 15 - 27, 2016**

**March - June**

**Third Round Registration – March 14 - 25, 2016**

**April**

**Fourth Round Registration – April 8 - 20, 2016**

**May**

**Fifth Round Registration – May 9 - 21, 2016**

**June**

**Register for School 2016-2017**

**Kindergarten Registration Guide**

**Contact Information**

**Phone Numbers**

- Countdown to Kindergarten: (617) 635-6816 or (617) 635-9288
- Boston Public Schools: (617) 635-9000
- Boston School Committee: (617) 635-9014
- English Language Learners: (617) 635-9435
- Food and Nutrition Services: (617) 635-9144
- Health Services: (617) 635-6788
- Homeless Education Resource Network: (617) 635-8037
- Newcomer Assessment and Counseling Center: (617) 635-1565
- Office of Engagement: (617) 635-7750
- BPS Hotline: (617) 635-9000
- Special Education: (617) 635-8599
- Transportation: (617) 635-9520

**Websites**

- Countdown to Kindergarten: www.countdowntokindergarten.org
- Discover BPS: www.discoverBPS.org
- Online Pre-registration: https://sis.mybps.org
- Boston Public Schools: www.bostonpublicschools.org
- BOSTONNavigator: (Out-of-School Time programs in Boston): www.bostonnavigator.org
- Talk, Read, Play: www.talkreadplay.org
- Office of Engagement: www.bostonfamilies.org

**2016-2017**

**Kindergarten!**

**Newcomer Assessment and Counseling Center**

**Transportation**

**Special Education**

**Boston Public Schools**

**Schools**

**Checklist**

**STEP 1:** To get your list of schools, visit: www.discoverBPS.org

**STEP 2:** Pre-register using our new online SIS System https://sis.mybps.org/aspen/index.html

**STEP 3:** Bring the following documents:
- Child’s original birth certificate, I-94 form or passport
- Child’s up-to-date immunization record
- Parent/Guardian’s photo identification

**Step 4:** Visit One of our Welcome Centers

**Step 5:** Questions? Call: 617-635-6816. Visit: www.countdowntokindergarten.org
Why BPS?

Boston families are fortunate to have more choices for their children’s education than almost anywhere else in the U.S. - and you will find some of our city’s best and most exciting choices in the Boston Public Schools. From pre-kindergarten through middle school and continuing through high school, our schools offer academic, social and cultural experiences that receive national attention.

Among your many choices are:

- An extensive kindergarten program, with guaranteed full-day “K2” for all five-year-olds, more than 2,700 seats for four-year-olds, and extended day schools just for early learners, including a Montessori program.
- A growing number of kindergartens to grade 8 (K-8) programs, innovation schools, pilot schools and in-district charter schools all over the city.
- Schools with programs for talented and gifted students, English language learners, and students with disabilities.
- Smaller class sizes, comparable to many suburban school districts. In kindergarten through grade 2, the maximum class size is just 22 students.

Thank you for choosing the Boston Public Schools for your family. We look forward to exceeding your expectations and being your partner in preparing your child for success from kindergarten through high school and beyond.

Choosing A School

The Boston Public Schools’ assignment policy is based on a Home-Based plan for students in kindergarten through grade eight. It is designed to help students attend quality schools closer to home.

The Home-Based plan:

- Increases the chances that a family will receive one of their top school choices.
- Increases access to quality schools overall.
- Ensures every incoming kindergarten child has quality schools from which to choose.
- Decreases the average distance a child travels to school by 40 percent.

Before registering in January, families will have the option to learn about our schools during School Choice Season.

- Visit DiscoverBPS.org and get your customized list of school choices based on your home address and your child’s grade.
- Attend Showcase in Our Schools on December 5, 2015 from 9-1 PM. All BPS K-8 will be open to welcome families interested in visiting schools before making their School Choices.

Registering for School

Who?
By September 1, 2016, children who are
- 5 years old are eligible for K2 Kindergarten in BPS.
- 4 years old are eligible for K1 Kindergarten in BPS.
- 3 years old are eligible for K0 Kindergarten in BPS.

K1 and K0 seats are not guaranteed
Note that while BPS tries to place children in schools their families choose, this is not always possible. K2 applicants can select to be administratively assigned in order to be guaranteed a seat by the end of first round registration. Children who turn six by December 31 will be assigned a kindergarten seat if one of the applicant’s choices is not available.

Where?
You can pre-register online using https://sis.mybps.org, but please remember that you need to complete the process by visiting a Welcome Center and bringing all required documents. If your child is entering K2 and English is not your child’s first language, your registration process will include a separate visit to the Newcomer Assessment and Counseling Center (NACC) for an English language evaluation and school choice consultation.

Preparing for School

Talking, reading and playing with children in the early years helps them to thrive and puts them on the path for school success. The City of Boston defines a “school ready child” as one who:

1. Interacts positively with other children and adults;
2. Is curious and loves learning new things;
3. Can focus & pay attention to another person or an activity;
4. Feels good about him/herself;
5. Has appropriate language skills; and
6. Has appropriate knowledge;
7. Has appropriate knowledge;
8. Has appropriate language skills; and
9. Has appropriate physical skills.

By doing three things with children daily- talking, reading and playing- you can support your child to be ready for school. Visit talkreadplay.org for more tips and information.