

NYC Lacks Full Workday Year-Round Child Care Options for Working Parents



Campaign for Children

THE FACTS

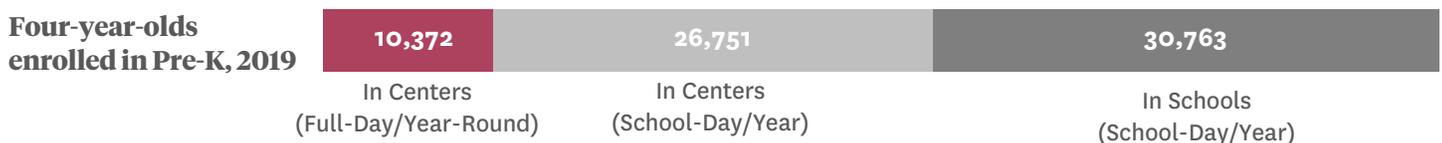
- Only 15% of four-year-olds in the City's Universal Pre-K program received full-day/year-round care in 2019.
- The city expanded Pre-K for three-year-olds in 2020 to include home-based providers, but almost all added seats were for school-day/school-year programs.
- In several NYC neighborhoods, less than 10% of Pre-K seats are full-day, year-round seats.

Publicly funded early care and education is a lifeline for working parents in the city, allowing caregivers to pursue career opportunities and provide for their families, while children benefit from licensed and high-quality early education settings. Mayor de Blasio's FY 22 Executive Budget proposes to expand 3-K for All by 16,500 seats with a goal of reaching universal access by the fall of 2023. But these investments and expansions in the sector fail to increase access to full-day, year-round programs. New York City must ensure that current publicly funded child care and any planned expansions, actually fit working parents' needs and offer robust care options for full-day care, all year round.

New contracts awarded to family child care providers in summer 2020 added 2,953 school-day/year only seats for three-year-olds as part of the City's planned expansion of 3-K programs. Family child care providers, which are based in providers' own homes, have historically contracted with the City to provide full-day/year-round care, most often for the youngest New Yorkers. But in the new contracts, only 212 seats for infants and toddlers were added in 2020.



Only 15% of four-year-olds in Pre-K received full-day/year-round care in centers during 2019, while the remaining 85% of 68,193 Pre-K students were in school-day/year programs in centers or schools.



In communities where contracted center-based seats were added through Pre-K expansion, new seats were exclusively or primarily school-day/year only. These include communities such as Elmhurst/Corona, Sheepshead Bay, Bay Ridge, and Bayside where 100% of seats in Pre-K centers in 2019 were school-day/year only, as well as Flushing, Throgs Neck, Pelham Parkway, and Fresh Meadows/Briarwood where more than 90% of seats are school-day/year only.

For more information, visit: cccnyc.org campaignforchildreennyc.com data.cccnyc.org