

Summit Pre-K

Frequently Asked Questions

How do tuition credits work?

To offset the high cost of quality preschool, SPK provides monthly tuition credits to families who meet the eligibility criteria. Tuition credits will be administered on a sliding scale.

The percent of credit is based on household income, quality rating of the program and whether the family has at least one younger child in care. Once the percent is calculated, it is applied to the actual tuition – which varies by program. In most cases, parents who choose a more expensive program will get larger credits but will also pay more out-of-pocket. For example:

	Center	SSD
Household Income	\$75,000	\$75,000
Child's Pre-K Schedule	4 full days/week Year-round	4 school days/week 9 months
# children 0-5 in care	1	1
Program Rating (CO Shines)	3	3
Billed Monthly Tuition	\$1,040	\$800
Percent of Monthly Credit	80%	80%
Amount of Monthly Credit	\$832	\$640
Monthly Out-of-Pocket Cost to Parent	\$208	\$160

How do monthly Tuition Credit payments work?

Tuition credits are given to assist families with the cost of preschool and are paid directly to the participating preschool program, child care center or family child care provider on behalf of the eligible child(ren).

We have been awarded a tuition credit but need to make a change to our child care schedule. How will that impact our tuition credit?

Changes to schedules are strongly discouraged as they impact Child Care program's operations and staffing and may impact your amount of tuition credit; However, if your Provider does approve a change to your regular child care schedule, you are required to notify the Summit Pre-K Program Administrator by the 20th of the previous month for tuition credit adjustments to be calculated based on your new schedule.

What age group is SPK for?

Eligible children MUST be 5 years old by October 1, 2023 and be in the last year of preschool before entering Kindergarten. You must apply during the Open Enrollment period in the Spring of 2022 for the Program Year of September 2022 – August 2023. register at <https://eco1.smapply.org/>

We are thinking of holding our child from starting Kindergarten?

You can apply for SPK for one year only. Families have the option to choose which year they are going to apply for SPK. If you are not sure of holding your child, we encourage families to apply the first year the child is SPK age eligible, just in case if you change your mind and do send your child to Kindergarten when he/she is scheduled to go.

Our child is enrolled in 2 programs, how will tuition credits work?

Once your application is processed, you will receive an email with the percentage of tuition credit for each program you are eligible for. The email will also include the parent fee for each program.

We are behind on our child care payments?

Child care providers are required to notify us if a family has tuition debt. Families will only be eligible to continue participation on the SPK program if they have a written payment plan agreed upon by both parties.

We split custody of our child. How should we apply?

There are 2 options:

Option #1: A parent may apply individually if they include their custody agreement in their application. The credit will be for the number of days the child is in their custody.

Option #2: Parents can apply together, and we will consider both incomes. We will consider all the days the child is in child care regardless of what day either parent has custody. Family size will reflect two parents.

For more information call 970-406-3067 or summitprek@earlychildhoodoptions.org