



# KinderCare Pre-K or Public Pre-K?

## What's right for your family?

It helps to have information that is easy to understand when you're choosing a pre-Kindergarten (pre-K) class for your child. Pre-K is for children who are almost ready for kindergarten.

We made a simple list to show what is different between KinderCare's Pre-K class and your state's public school pre-K class.

Parts of the Program	KinderCare Pre-K Program	Public Pre-K Program
Hours of Care	Centers are open Monday through Friday with earlier drop-off and later pick-up times available at no additional cost. Full-time and part-time schedules available.	Programs usually have shorter hours. You may need to pay extra to drop off early or pick up late.
Schedule of Care and Curriculum	Centers are open all year and close for federal holidays. Our research-based curriculum is only available at KinderCare, with a focus on a social, emotional, and cognitive development.	Public pre-K programs often run only during the school year. They close for summer and take the same days off as public schools.
Program Extras	KinderCare offers extra small group classes during the school day to help children learn more about letters and sounds, cooking, music, and STEM.	Public pre-K programs may only teach what is in the state's learning plan.
Quality Assessments	Centers are approved by the National Association for the Education of YoungChildren (NAEYC). Visit <a href="http://NAEYC.org">NAEYC.org</a> for more details.	Public pre-K classrooms may not offer third party assessments.
Child Development Assessments	We give BRIGANCE® screenings twice a year. This is a short, accurate check for children ages 3-5 to observe and measure how they are growing and learning.	Learning observations and measurements may be given only if teachers notice a problem.
Outdoor Play Time	Children play outdoors at least twice a day when the weather is good. If not, we designate time for indoor movement activities.	Children get less outdoor time because they must spend a certain amount of time learning indoors.
Classroom Ratios (Number of Teachers to Children)	We have one teacher for every 12 children in our Pre-K classes.	In some public pre-K classrooms, there can be up to 24 children for one teacher.
Health and Safety	Staff are trained in child development or early childhood education and in first aid and CPR for children.	Staff CPR and first aid training depend on each school's rules.