



Request for Qualifications (RFQ): Seattle Preschool Program School Year 2026-2027

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS TIMELINE

EVENT	DATE/LOCATION*
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Application Opens	Wednesday, November 19, 2025
Live Q&A Information Sessions	Tuesday, December 2, 10:00am Monday, December 8, 6:30pm
Deadline for Questions	Friday, December 12, 2025 at 5pm
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Application Due	Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 11:59pm
Application Review, Scoring and Deliberation	December 19, 2025 – January 13, 2026
Site visits for all eligible applicants	January 5-9, 2026
Notifications Issued to Applicants	January 2026
Anticipated start of contract coordination	April 2026
Contract Start Date	September 1, 2026

**Dates are subject to change; Exact dates/times for RFQ information sessions to be listed on DEEL's website:*

<http://www.seattle.gov/education/for-providers/funding-opportunities>

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) is notifying organizations, early learning providers, and any other entities providing services described in this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) of a funding opportunity through the City of Seattle Families, Education, Preschool and Promise (FEPP) Levy.

The Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) was initiated in the 2015-16 school year with the goal of providing accessible, high-quality preschool services for Seattle children designed to improve their readiness for school and to support their subsequent academic achievement.

Purpose

The purpose of this RFQ is to solicit applications to identify qualified early learning providers in Seattle of the opportunity to join the SPP.

DEEL has funding to contract for new SPP classrooms for the 2026-27 school year. These new classrooms will include a combination of classrooms identified through this RFQ, expansion of existing SPP providers, and direct contracting with eligible entities. This RFQ is intended for center-based programs that don't already contract with SPP. Family Child Care (FCC) programs participate in SPP through a separate FCC Hub model. Existing SPP contractors should use the application link and information they've been directly given to submit any expansion requests. This RFQ is not for existing contractors.



Contract negotiations are expected to begin in April 2026 with preschool classes to start in September 2026. To be considered for funding, eligible applicants are invited to submit an RFQ application by December 17, 2025. DEEL reserves the right to re-release this RFQ throughout the FEPP Levy period for subsequent school years.

Overview of RFQ process

There are two steps to becoming an SPP provider that are further outlined below under the RFQ Roster Design section.

STEP ONE:

First, applicants must submit an RFQ application to demonstrate how they meet the qualifications for becoming an SPP provider. Successful applicants will be placed on an SPP Roster to be considered for selection as a provider for the 2026-27 school year. If DEEL determines no provider fulfills criteria set out in this RFQ, DEEL may at any time cancel the RFQ without selecting any provider.

STEP TWO:

Second, DEEL will select one or more providers from the SPP Roster according to the criteria outlined in the RFQ Roster Design section. This process will identify the specific classrooms to be awarded funding. This step includes the entire RFQ roster, which incorporates new applicants through this RFQ process as well as considers expansion requests from existing SPP providers and direct contractors. If DEEL determines no provider fulfills criteria set out in this RFQ, DEEL may at any time cancel the RFQ without selecting any provider.

There is no guarantee of work or funding associated with this RFQ opportunity.

INVESTMENT GOALS AND OVERVIEW

Seattle Preschool Program

The goal of this investment is that *Seattle students have access to and utilize high-quality early learning services that promote success in kindergarten*. To accomplish this, DEEL:

- Supports preschool providers to offer learning environments that are evidence-based, high-quality, culturally responsive, and equitable;
- Provides families with multiple ways to access high-quality early learning services; and
- Focuses on strategies that will contribute to closing race-based opportunity gaps.

High-quality preschool has been shown to have positive impacts on children's social and emotional development, health, pre-academic skill development, and executive function skills.¹ This investment funds:

- Preschool Services. Preschool providers are eligible to receive funds to deliver preschool services.
 - There are three types of preschool providers in SPP: (1) Seattle Public Schools (the District), (2) community-based organizations (CBOs), and (3) licensed family child care providers (FCCs), who contract with DEEL through administrative Hubs.
- Tuition Assistance. Families of eligible children will have access to tuition assistance for SPP, subject to program needs and funding availability.

¹ Child Trends. (2018). High-quality preschool can support healthy development and learning. Retrieved from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/high-quality-preschool-can-support-healthy-development-and-learning>



- Eligible families with household income up to 94% of state median income may participate in SPP free of charge. In 2025, 94% is \$124,420 for a family of four.
- There is a sliding scale for tuition for families above 94% of state median income (see Appendix B).

SPP is designed to benefit:

- *Children*, by providing access to high-quality preschool to prepare them for their transition to kindergarten.² Investments will serve Seattle children who are at least 3 years old by August 31 and not yet eligible for kindergarten in Seattle Public Schools.
- *Families*, by improving affordability. Providing tuition assistance reduces the financial burden of working families whose children attend high-quality preschool.
- *Seattle Public Schools and the community*, by reducing the long-term costs for remediation and special education. Studies have found that investing in high-quality preschool leads to reduced costs in health and criminal justice system expenditures³ and a 10% reduction in third-grade special education placements.⁴

Scope of Work

Early learning providers responding to this RFQ must meet SPP programmatic and participation requirements as reflected below, though subject to change pending adoption of the 2025 FEPP Levy Implementation & Evaluation Plan in approximately June 2026. DEEL has structures and resources in place to support providers to meet requirements, if necessary. More detailed descriptions on program participation are found in the Appendices.

² Hatcher, Beth; Nuner, Joyce; Paulsel, Jean. (2012). Kindergarten Readiness and Preschools: Teachers' and Parents' Beliefs within and across Programs. *Early Childhood Research & Practice*, v14 n2. Retrieved from <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ997132>

³ Heckman Equation. Invest in early childhood development: Reduce deficits, strengthen the economy. Retrieved from https://heckmanequation.org/assets/2013/07/F_HeckmanDeficitPieceCUSTOM-Generic_052714-3-1.pdf

⁴ Muschkin, C. G., Ladd, H. F., & Dodge, K. A. (2015). Impact of North Carolina's Early Childhood Initiatives on Special Education Placements in Third Grade. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 37(4), 478–500. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.3102/0162373714559096>



Table 1:

Program Requirements	
Classroom size	At least 15 but no more than 20 children per classroom
Teacher to student ratio	Maximum 1 teacher per 10 students (1:10)
Service hours	6 hours per day, 180 days per year
Curriculum	Creative Curriculum or HighScope <i>Waivers may be granted for other high-quality evidence-based curriculum for agencies with intensive plans for coaching, training and assessment.</i>
Child-Level Assessments	Teaching Strategies GOLD, ASQ:SE2, ASQ-3, Health Screenings
Classroom Teacher Requirements	Each classroom must at a minimum have 1 lead teacher and 1 assistant teacher, or a two co-lead teacher structure
Required Teacher Qualifications*	Lead Teacher: Bachelor's degree (BA) in Early Childhood Education or bachelor's with 30 ECE credits Assistant Teacher: Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education or other associate's degree with 20 ECE credits <i>*Education degree and ECE credits in ECE must be verified as "approved" in MERIT. Teachers who do not meet these requirements will have up to four years to meet them. College tuition assistance may be available through DEEL.</i>
Site Director	Must meet lead teacher qualifications.
Required Family Support Worker Qualifications (if funded through the SPP Contract)	Associate or higher degree with the equivalent of 30 college quarter credits in related (human services/social work) as "approved" in MERIT.
Family Support	SPP providers are required to provide direct support to the families served at the agency to improve child outcomes.



Provider Participation Requirements	
Coaching	SPP providers are required to participate in DEEL-provided instructional coaching that supports directors and teachers in the classroom.
Professional Development	SPP providers are required to participate in foundational curriculum and assessment training, which is offered by DEEL throughout the year. A schedule of PD opportunities and required trainings will be provided at the start of the contract year. Funding for teacher release time will be available from DEEL.
Directors' Meetings	Site Directors are expected to attend and actively engage in monthly meetings and/or professional learning communities.
Evaluation	DEEL contracts with a third-party evaluator to measure programmatic growth and child-level outcomes over time. All SPP programs are required to participate in this on-going evaluation.
Other Contractual Requirements	SPP contracts are issued yearly and are subject to modifications each year. Contracts will include more specific requirements including, but not limited to data collection and submission, screenings and assessments, attendance, etc.

RFQ ROSTER DESIGN

PLEASE NOTE: There is no guarantee of work or funding associated with this RFQ opportunity.

Successful RFQ applicants will be placed on the DEEL SPP Roster. Inclusion on the roster does not guarantee funding or a contract with the agency but will permit DEEL to select the agency to provide preschool services according to additional criteria listed below. Other key elements of the SPP Roster include:

- No specific contract award has been prescribed. The contract award amount will be based on a mutual determination between the service provider and DEEL in accordance with the slot rates and other funding amounts determined for the school year in which the provider will be providing SPP services. (e.g., the application may list three classrooms, though DEEL may only contract for one classroom.)
- Providers selected from the SPP Roster should plan to enter into a contract for the period of September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027.
- Providers selected from the SPP Roster will be expected to provide preschool classes beginning in September 2026. Inability to provide services on time may lead to revocation of the funding award for the 2026-27 school year.



Eligibility

DEEL is looking for service agencies and/or individuals who, at a minimum:

1) Are licensed by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) with a non-expiring license OR exempt from licensing by the State because entity is a public school or institution of higher education;

AND

2a) Hold a rating of Level 3 or above in the State's Early Achievers (EA) program OR if not regulated by DCYF, meet early learning quality standards comparable to EA, by demonstrating current implementation of all SPP program requirements (listed in *Table 1*).

OR

2b) Hold accreditation from one of the following organizations: [NAEYC](#), [National Accreditation Commission](#), [National Early Childhood Program Accreditation](#).

OR

2c) Demonstrates fidelity to the following five indicators of quality, according to NIEER:

- Uses evidenced-based, validated curriculum
- Conducts regular child screenings and formative child assessments with implementation protocols
- Requires and provides teacher training on the curriculum, assessments and cultural linguistic best practices
- Shares child progress with families and provides regular opportunities for families to provide feedback
- Teachers meet education requirements, or staff have verified state ECE certificates or meet WAC education requirements

SPP Roster Duration

Applicants accepted to the RFQ roster are approved for a two-year period.

Criteria to be selected from the SPP Roster

Once an agency/provider is deemed eligible for the SPP Roster, DEEL will use a prioritization process utilizing the following criteria to prioritize all providers on the roster including existing SPP contractors, new applicants and direct contract providers. **Classrooms with a licensed capacity smaller than 15 will not be considered for funding.**

The qualified applicant:

- Is in good license standing with all applicable agencies to provide preschool services.
- Is in a geographical area of high demand (See Appendix D.)
- Serves children historically farthest from educational justice (as determined by Seattle Public Schools' Equity Tier Index. See Appendix D.)
- Offers additional services, including, but not limited to:
 - Special education inclusion model



- Dual Language programming
- Services to children experiencing homelessness and/or children in foster/kinship care
- Maintains administrative, financial and organizational controls sufficient to properly use DEEL funds for SPP purposes.
 - Applicants must disclose to DEEL: any past or pending investigations related to Applicant, its preschool services, or activities of its employees and/or officers in connection with their role with Recipient; and any past, pending, or threatened litigation involving Recipient or its employees and/or officers in connection with their role with Recipient.
 - Upon disclosure of any litigation or investigation involving applicant, DEEL reserves the right to disqualify Applicant from consideration. In DEEL's sole discretion, DEEL may select an otherwise qualified Applicant who is subject to litigation and/or investigation. In that case, any contract will be strictly contingent on Applicant resolving to DEEL's satisfaction any issues raised by the investigation or litigation that DEEL determines relevant to the SPP program.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of criteria. DEEL reserves the right to add criteria as needed to meet the ongoing needs and priorities of the City.

Roster Removal

DEEL reserves the right to remove agencies from the roster of qualified providers. Reasons for removal may include actions or behavior that could be harmful to students, schools, or the community. This includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:

- Inappropriate behavior or language in preschool settings
- Behavior that violates site rules
- Unlawful activities
- Unsatisfactory evaluation
- Agency (including its officers and employees) is subject to investigation and/or litigation without promptly disclosing that investigation and/or litigation to DEEL. If the agency does disclose to DEEL that it is subject to investigation or litigation, DEEL reserves the right to either remove the agency from the Roster or retain the organization. This decision will be made by DEEL in its sole discretion.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Responses will be evaluated using a three-step process. First, proposals will be reviewed for technical compliance with the requirements of this RFQ. Second, submissions that are technically compliant will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers using criteria outlined in this section. Third, applications will be prioritized based on additional criteria for selection from the SPP Roster. All steps are described in greater detail below.

Initial Screening for Technical Compliance and Evaluating

The checklist below (Table 2) lists the required elements of each new applicant's RFQ application. If any of these elements are missing or incomplete, the application may not be evaluated further. DEEL reserves the right to waive immaterial defects or irregularities in any submission. Follow-up phone calls/emails may be made to obtain additional information.



Table 2:

Complete	Item	Documentation
☐ Yes ☐ No	Licensed by DCYF or Exempt	Copy of DCYF childcare license - Includes address of application site - Includes preschool capacity - Includes name of applying classroom - Non-expiring
☐ Yes ☐ No	Rated in EA a minimum of a 3 or higher	EA Certificate - Not expired - For each application site
☐ Yes ☐ No	(If not EA rated) Accredited by approved organization	Certificate of accreditation - Not expired - Includes site of application If not accredited within last 2 years, submit annual report that demonstrates ongoing compliance
☐ Yes ☐ No	(If not EA rated nor accredited) Meet quality standards as listed	Including sufficient details within the application for all five quality indicators EA rating status report
☐ Yes ☐ No	If located in SPS building, documentation of notification to SPS Alignment Coordinator	Documentation of notification which can include email notification, letter, etc.

Application Scoring

Applications to be included on the SPP Roster will be assessed by a review panel. The following criteria in *Table 3* will be used when evaluating this RFQ. **Applications must score a minimum of 70 points to be placed on the SPP Roster.**

The review panel will use written materials provided in the applications as a basis for assessment, but also may elect to conduct interviews or site visits to gather further information or clarify questions.



Table 3, applies only to new RFQ Applicants (not existing SPP providers):

RFQ Rating Criteria	Points
1. Program Experience and Demonstrated Ability A. Clear description of program including mission, vision, and values B. Description of how the program currently meets SPP requirements or a clear plan for how the program intends to meet the SPP requirements C. Demonstrates experience working with 3- and 4-year-old children and their families for 2 or more years D. Demonstrates regular use of child-level assessments and data to support optimal child development and learning E. Demonstrates a strong approach to supporting and engaging families F. Demonstrates the ability to meet the needs of all children (children experiencing homelessness, children with IEPs, etc.)	40
2. Organizational and Administrative Capacity A. Has a proven track record of managing funds with dedicated finance personnel and financial systems in place B. Has adequate organizational staffing to support program C. Demonstrates ability to adequately recruit, hire and retain qualified staff at all levels of the organization	25
3. Cultural Competency and Responsiveness A. Proven track record providing culturally and linguistically relevant services to diverse populations, including dual language programming B. Demonstrates an understanding of cultural competence and describes how it is incorporated into the program and service delivery C. Demonstrates the ability to provide culturally responsive services within diverse communities	25
4. Planning for Challenges A. Applicant acknowledges possible challenges to implementing the program and exhibits forethought and planning to overcome challenges	10
Maximum points	100



Selection of specific classrooms

DEEL will use a prioritization process utilizing the following criteria to prioritize all providers on the roster including existing SPP contractors, new applicants and direct contract providers.

Table 4 (applies to all providers on the SPP Roster):

1. Geography A. Located in areas of the city with no City-funded preschool or one non-income-restricted classroom that is fully enrolled, demonstrating demand. Additional priority will be given to locations that offer optional extended hours in areas that currently only offer families a six-hour program. <i>Demonstrated on the map in Appendix D</i>
2. Additional Services Provided A. Special education inclusion model B. Dual language programming C. Services to children experiencing homelessness and/or children in foster/kinship care D. Service to multiple age groups, allowing families to receive care for children in different age groups
3. Children Furthest from Educational Justice A. Number of children furthest from educational justice being served by or living in the provider's elementary school attendance zone. <i>Demonstrated by the Equity Tiers developed by Seattle Public Schools, referenced in the map in Appendix D</i>
4. Historical Enrollment A. The site/classroom is in demand by the community and has indicators that the SPP classroom(s) will be fully utilized. Two years of enrollment data will be used to demonstrate demand.
This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of criteria. DEEL reserves the right to add criteria as needed to meet the ongoing needs and priorities of the City.

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

Response Guidelines:

The following documents, unless noted otherwise, must be submitted in the online application (via Submittable) to constitute a complete submission. Incomplete applications will not be scored by the panel.

- ☐ Copy of the DCYF License for each site/classroom on the application
- ☐ Copy of current, non-expired Early Achievers Rating for each site of application, or other documentation of quality measures, as referenced in Table 2.
- ☐ If located in a Seattle Public Schools building, documentation of notification to SPS Alignment coordinator (shall@seattleschools.org) of application for SPP. (Documentation can include email notification, letter, etc.)

The Application:

Visit DEEL's [funding web page](#), to access the link to the online application, via Submittable.



New users to Submittable will create a new account (and will need to confirm their email address before applying).

The application may be started and not finished in the same session. However, the application will close at 11:59pm on December 17, 2025. Applications will not be able to be submitted after this time.

IMPORTANT: Here's an important overview to guide you through the application process:

- **Initial Form:** Begin by completing and submitting the Seattle Preschool Program Agency Application on the online portal (Submittable). For eligible applicants, once this is submitted, you will gain access in Submittable to additional required forms—specifically, a form for each site and each classroom.
- **Additional Forms:** A complete submission requires the Agency Application form plus the Classroom and Site forms. These must ALL be submitted by the deadline through the online portal. See [video](#) on how to access the additional forms.
- **Submit Early:** To ensure you have plenty of time to complete all three required forms, we encourage you to complete and submit the initial form as soon as possible. This will allow you to access the additional forms and avoid any last-minute rush.
- **Form Previews:** On the DEEL website, you'll find Word versions of all forms for your reference only. Please use these to preview the information requested but be sure to complete and submit all forms directly within Submittable for your application to be considered.

Submission:

All applications should be submitted electronically. If an applicant cannot submit their application electronically, please contact DEELFunding@seattle.gov by December 15, 2025, for technical assistance.

The online application will close at 11:59pm on December 17, 2025. Applicants should ensure all materials are included in the online application submission.

Questions:

Please direct submission process questions to DEELFunding@seattle.gov and include “*Question: SPP RFQ*” in the subject line.

- Answers to questions will be posted within three (3) business days in an evolving “Frequently Asked Questions” section in DEEL’s funding web page. We will post questions and answers to this site for transparency; questions will be kept anonymous. Every applicant will have the opportunity to see all questions being asked and DEEL’s response to those questions.

City Staff are not able to answer questions about this RFQ outside of the question-and-answer protocol or the live question and answer session.

Tips for Success:

- Watch the information video. [Coming soon]
- Join the live Q&A session.
 - Tuesday, December 2, 2025: [Link to join on Microsoft Teams](#)
 - Monday, December 8, 2025: [Link to join on Microsoft Teams](#)
- Visit DEEL’s [funding web page](#) for important dates and information regarding required application materials

RFQ APPEAL PROCESS



An agency or individual applying for the Seattle Preschool Program Request for Qualification (RFQ) has the right to appeal DEEL's decision on their application.

- DEEL will notify each agency by email of DEEL's decision on the proposal
- Within four (4) working days from the date of DEEL's written notification of decision, the agency may submit a written appeal to the Director of DEEL, via email to DEELFunding@seattle.gov. The basis for the appeal must address one or more of the following criteria:
 - DEEL's failure to follow the process, evaluation guidelines, or criteria established in the RFQ; or
 - DEEL's failure to adhere to published criteria and/or procedures.
- The DEEL Director will review the written appeal and may request additional oral or written information from the agency. The DEEL Director will provide a written decision within four (4) working days of the receipt of the appeal, unless the Director notifies the appealing party that more time is required to make an informed decision. The Director's decision will be final.



APPENDIX A: SPP Additional Program Requirements

Child Eligibility, Enrollment, and Tuition
Only children who live in City limits are eligible for SPP. Eligible children experiencing homelessness must have a nighttime address within Seattle city limits.
Only children who are 3 or 4 by August 31, 2026 are eligible for SPP.
Agencies <i>may</i> enroll a small number of children who are not eligible for SPP, however the contract amount will be reduced based on this.
SPP has a zero expulsion and suspension policy. No child may be removed from the program for behavior challenges, toilet training or medical needs. Providers should be prepared to support children with various needs without disrupting children's access to preschool.
Families who pay tuition will pay it to DEEL. DEEL then pays the providers on a monthly basis.
Families who also participate in before/after care programs are required to pay fees directly to the provider.
DEEL selects and enrolls children into SPP based on specific prioritization criteria which can be found on the Frequently Asked Questions section of our Seattle Preschool Program parent portal. Applications for the 2026-27 school year open to the public on March 16, 2026.
In certain circumstances, providers may select and enroll eligible children in SPP classrooms, primarily if the contract classroom is blended with ECEAP or Head Start, has rising toddlers who may enroll in the preschool classroom, has dual language programming requirements, or the program has cultural programming requiring specific participants. If a program does not have any of the scenarios above, DEEL will recruit and enroll children into the SPP classroom. (The first year's enrollment can be a collaborative effort for any already-enrolled children for the upcoming school year.)
Family Support
Providers are required to submit a Family Support Plan for partnering with families and communities to improve child outcomes.
Director Responsibilities and Staffing
Professional Development Plans are required for teachers who do not meet SPP education requirements.
All staff changes must be reported to DEEL.
Directors' business and professional learning community meetings are held one time per month.
Directors are required to attend a pre-service orientation prior to the school year.
Reporting and Performance
DEEL contracts with external evaluators to assess program performance, both at the classroom and individual child level.
DEEL's contracts use a performance pay structure. A percentage of the providers' contracts must be earned by meeting benchmarks.
SPP requires the use of DEEL's CHIPS database. Providers are required to enter data into CHIPS.
SPP providers are required to track and report attendance.



APPENDIX B: SPP Sliding Scale Annual Tuition

2025-26 Tuition Sliding Fee Scale - Estimated **Monthly** Tuition due from families

HH Size => Gross Income	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
\$60,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$65,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$70,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$75,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$80,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$85,000	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$90,000	\$117	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$95,000	\$161	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$100,000	\$248	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$105,000	\$292	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$110,000	\$379	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$115,000	\$423	\$161	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$120,000	\$511	\$204	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$125,000	\$554	\$248	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$130,000	\$642	\$336	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$135,000	\$686	\$379	\$117	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$140,000	\$773	\$423	\$161	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$145,000	\$861	\$467	\$248	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$150,000	\$905	\$511	\$248	Free	Free	Free	Free
\$155,000	\$948	\$598	\$336	\$117	Free	Free	Free
\$160,000	\$1,036	\$642	\$336	\$161	Free	Free	Free
\$165,000	\$1,124	\$686	\$423	\$204	Free	Free	Free
\$170,000	\$1,167	\$730	\$467	\$248	Free	Free	Free
\$175,000	\$1,211	\$773	\$511	\$292	\$117	Free	Free
\$180,000	\$1,299	\$861	\$554	\$336	\$161	Free	Free
\$185,000	\$1,386	\$905	\$598	\$336	\$161	Free	Free
\$190,000	\$1,386	\$948	\$642	\$379	\$204	Free	Free
\$195,000	\$1,386	\$992	\$686	\$423	\$248	\$117	Free
\$200,000	\$1,386	\$1,036	\$730	\$467	\$292	\$161	Free
\$205,000	\$1,386	\$1,124	\$773	\$511	\$336	\$161	Free
\$210,000	\$1,386	\$1,167	\$817	\$554	\$336	\$204	Free
\$215,000	\$1,386	\$1,211	\$861	\$598	\$379	\$248	\$117
\$220,000	\$1,386	\$1,255	\$905	\$642	\$423	\$248	\$117
\$225,000	\$1,386	\$1,342	\$948	\$686	\$467	\$292	\$161
\$230,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$992	\$686	\$511	\$336	\$161
\$235,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,036	\$730	\$511	\$336	\$204
\$240,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,080	\$773	\$554	\$379	\$248
\$245,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,124	\$817	\$598	\$423	\$248
\$250,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,167	\$861	\$598	\$423	\$292
\$255,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,211	\$905	\$642	\$467	\$336
\$260,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,255	\$948	\$686	\$511	\$336
\$265,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,299	\$948	\$730	\$511	\$379
\$270,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,342	\$1,036	\$773	\$554	\$423
\$275,000	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,386	\$1,036	\$773	\$598	\$423



APPENDIX C: 2025-26 SPP Payment Model (subject to change for 2026-27)

The payment model reflected here may change for the upcoming school year. Awarded providers will be notified of any anticipated rate changes. These rates reflect ten months of service, though the totals here are distributed over the course of 12 months, two months of which as administrative rates.

Slot Type ¹	Amount Per Slot
Regular Slot	\$13,375
Head Start Blended Slot	\$6,556
ECEAP School Day Blended Slot	\$3,825
ECEAP Working Day Blended Slot	\$4,590

1. The **Slot Payment** varies depending on the level of other funding received from ECEAP or Head Start, if any. For blended slots, SPP funds are awarded for the purpose of meeting the additional SPP requirements and activities.

CLASSROOM-LEVEL PAYMENTS

Lead Teacher Qualifications ²	\$\$ Per Lead Teacher
Not meeting Qualifications	\$3,000
Meeting Qualifications	\$25,900
Exceeding Qualifications	\$30,800

2. The **Lead Teacher Pay Enhancement** awards providers extra funds to support teacher wages based on the lead teacher's qualifications. This amount shall be used to meet SPP's minimum wage requirements (see program manual for more detail).

Classroom Payment Type ³	\$\$ Per Classroom
Classroom Funds-Annual Maintenance	\$3,554
Classroom Startup Funds-Conversion	\$9,476
Classroom Startup Funds-New Classroom	\$23,690

3. Each classroom is eligible to receive **Classroom Funds** - either as an annual maintenance, conversion, or as a startup amount. New classrooms that previously operated as a preschool classroom before joining SPP or Pathway are eligible for the "Conversion" amount. New classrooms that did NOT previously operate as a preschool are eligible for the "New" amount. All others receive maintenance.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS⁴⁻⁵

Family Support Payment Type	\$\$ Per Classroom
Regular Classroom-Single Classroom Agency	\$30,900
Regular Classroom-Multiple Classroom Agency	\$23,690
Blended Classroom-Single Classroom Agency	\$12,360
Blended Classroom-Multiple Classroom Agency	\$9,270



Comprehensive Support Payment Level	\$\$ Per Slot
Base Only	\$640
Tier 4 (includes Base)	\$676
Tier 3 (includes Base)	\$762
Tier 2 (includes Base)	\$853
Tier 1 (includes Base)	\$963

4. **Family Support Funds** are awarded to each classroom; payment is determined by whether a classroom receives ECEAP or Head Start funds. The higher amount in each category is based on whether a provider contracts for a single classroom or multiple classrooms.

5. **Comprehensive Support Funds** are awarded to each classroom based on the number of slots and the corresponding SPS Equity Tier for the site's address.



APPENDIX D: Maps

Geographic areas of need for City-funded preschool

HIGH PRIORITY

Dark Green: Represents areas where there is high demand for city-funded preschool, particularly City Council Districts 1, 4 and 6.

MODERATE PRIORITY

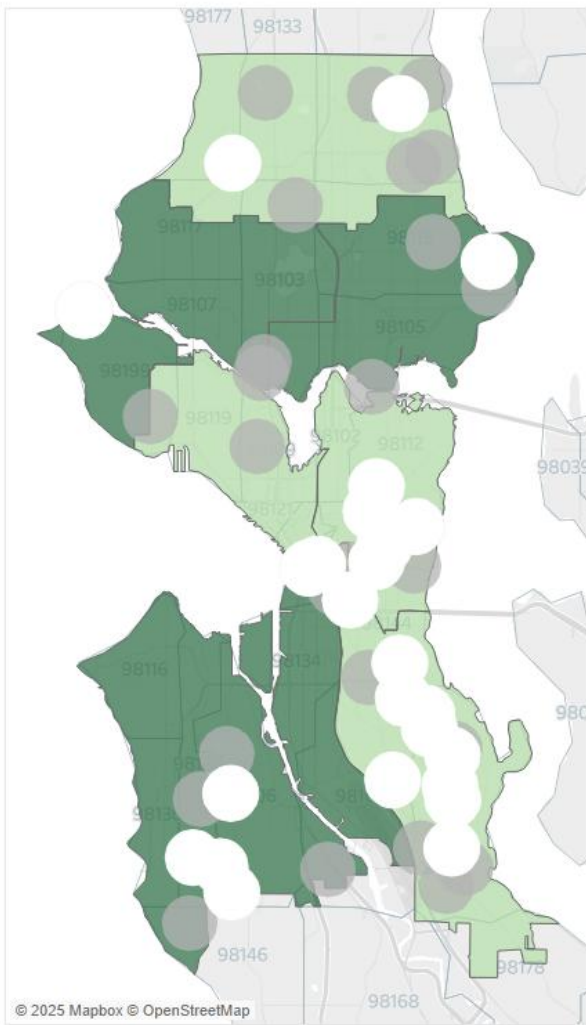
Light Green: Represents areas where there is moderate demand for city-funded preschool.

Gray: Represent areas where there is demand for optional extended day preschool.

LOW PRIORITY

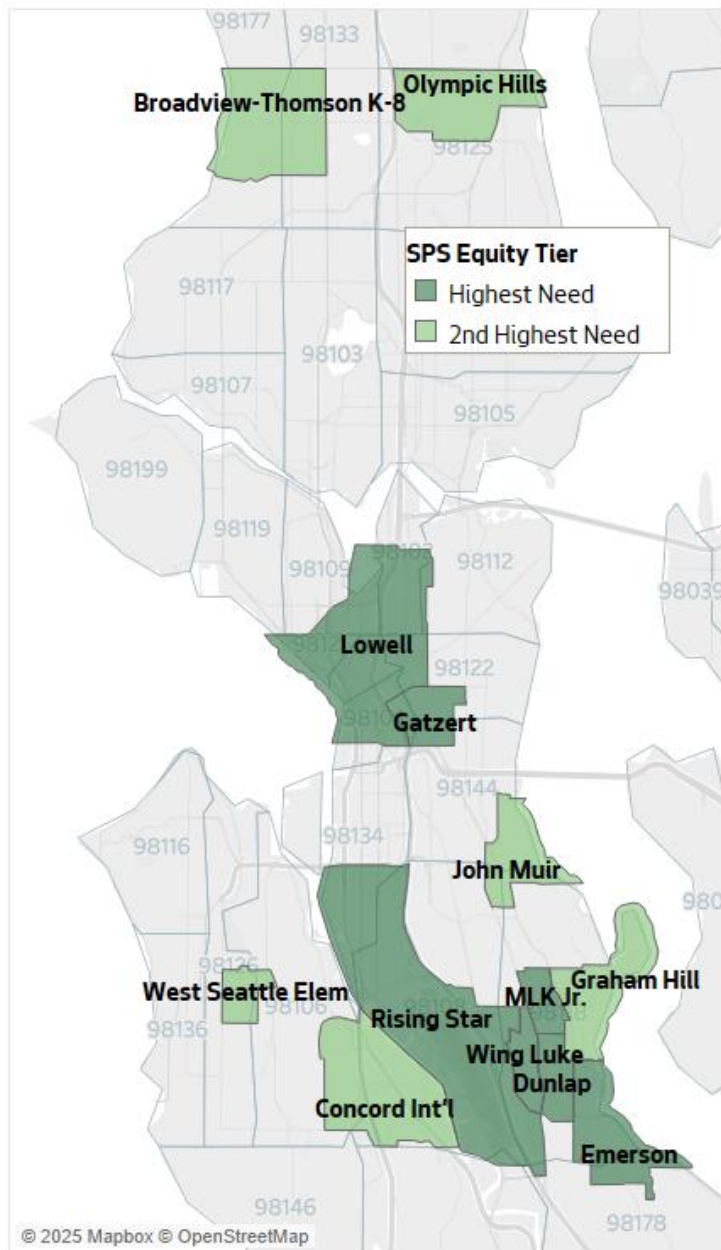
White: Represents areas where there is low demand (or already high supply) for city-funded preschool

Points for geography will be awarded to sites planning to operate in green or gray areas of the map. No points will be awarded to sites planning to operate in the white area.





Top two SY 25-26 Seattle Public School Equity Tiers, demonstrating population of children furthest from educational justice. To learn more information about SPS's Equity Tiers, review [this PDF from the SPS district](#).





APPENDIX E: City Contracting Requirements

Successful applicants will enter into a contract for services with the City of Seattle and be required to submit the following documents at a to-be-determined date:

- **Business license numbers.** The contracting organization must meet all licensing requirements that apply to its organization. The contracting organization must license, report and pay revenue taxes for the Washington State Business License (UBI#) and Seattle Business License, if they are required by the laws of those jurisdictions.
 - Seattle business license number or copy of the license- [Find information on applying for a COS business license here](#)
 - WA State business license (UBI) number or copy of the license- [Find information on applying for a Washington State business license here](#)
- **Recently signed W-9 form.** The contracting organization must have a Federal Tax ID number/employer identification number (EIN) to facilitate payments from the City of Seattle to the provider. Link to form available here: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
- **Insurance Coverage.** As part of the contract, you or your agency will be required to carry the insurance coverage listed in the **Contract Insurance Requirements Transmittal Form, located on DEEL's Funding Webpage**. We will need to collect the following insurance documents from you as proof of this coverage:
 - An Acord Certificate of Insurance
 - Additional Insured Endorsement or Blanket Policy Wording showing the City of Seattle as an additional insured
 - OR**
 - Provide a certificate or letter of self-insurance
- **Women or Minority Business Enterprise (WMBE)**
 - If you haven't already done so, we strongly encourage (but it is optional) that if you are a Women or Minority Business Enterprise, that you register in the City's Online Business Directory (OBD). The City has made it a priority to contract with WMBEs and we use OBD for tracking purposes. You can find information on:
 - WMBEs: <http://www.seattle.gov/city-purchasing-and-contracting/social-equity/wmbe>
 - OBD: <http://www.seattle.gov/city-purchasing-and-contracting/online-business-directory>
 - And to register in OBD: <https://web6.seattle.gov/FAS/OBD/Logon/Logon.aspx>
 - *Registering in the Online Business Directory will allow DEEL and other City departments to directly select you for contracting (vs. competitive solicitation) and to contract with you above some maximum thresholds without requiring competitive solicitation in the future regardless of WMBE status.*
- **Maintain the following insurance coverage, at a minimum:**
 - **STANDARD INSURANCE COVERAGES AND LIMITS OF LIABILITY REQUIRED:**
 - ☒ **Commercial General Liability (CGL)** or equivalent insurance including coverage for: Premises/Operations, Products/Completed Operations, Personal/Advertising Injury, Contractual, Stop Gap/Employers Liability (coverage may be provided under a separate policy), and Abuse and Molestation (ensure that it is shown on the ACORD Certificate of Liability Insurance Form or a confirmation email from insurance agent). Minimum limit of liability shall be



\$1,000,000 each occurrence Combined Single Limit bodily injury and property damage (“CSL”)

\$2,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate

\$2,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 each accident/disease—policy limit/disease—each employee stop-gap/Employer’s Liability

\$1,000,000 Abuse and Molestation

- ☒ **Abuse and Molestation** if agency is working/direct interaction with children ages 0-17, additional coverage is required (\$1,000,000.00 minimum for each incident).
- ☒ **Automobile Liability** insurance for owned, non-owned, leased or hired vehicles, as applicable, written on a form CA 00 01 or equivalent **WITH MINIMUM LIMITS OF LIABILITY OF \$1,000,000** CSL.
MSC-90 and CA 99 48 endorsements required unless In-transit Pollution coverage is covered under required Contractor’s Pollution Liability insurance.
- ☒ **Worker's Compensation** insurance for Washington State as required by Title 51 RCW.
- **Maintain financial and program records, documents, and other evidence** directly related to performance of the work in accordance with Generally Acceptable Accounting Procedures. The City of Seattle, or any of its duly authorized representatives, shall have access to such books, records and documents for inspection, audit, and copying for a period of six (6) years after completion of work.