North Carolina Preschool Eligibility Crosswalk **Public School Preschool Programs (flow chart)**				
Program	Head Start	Title I Preschool	NC Pre-K	NC DPI EC Division
Age	Pregnant women and children birth to compulsory school age (August 31 of the current program year).	Birth to the age of five by August 31 of the current program year.	Four-years-old on or before August 31st of the current program year.	IDEA Part B serves children ages 3-21. Children must be age 3 by August 31st of the current school year.
Eligibility	**Income** ● The family's income is equal to or below the poverty line; or, ● The family is eligible for or, in the absence of child care, would be potentially eligible for public assistance; including TANF child-only payments, or, ● The child is homeless; or, ● The child is in foster care. Additional Information: ● Establishes selection criteria weighing prioritization including whether the child is homeless, whether the child is in foster care, the child's age, whether the child is eligible for special education and related services, or early intervention services, as appropriate, and, other relevant family or child risk factors. ● A program must ensure at least 10 percent of its total funded enrollment is filled by children eligible for services under IDEA. ● May enroll up to 10% over-income.	**Academic Need** Eligibility must be determined on the basis of multiple, educationally related, objective criteria. To identify those with the greatest educational need, local programs design a selection process that utilizes objective criteria such as family interviews, teacher judgment, and developmentally appropriate measures of child development. Programs rank-order applicants from those showing the greatest needs to those showing the least. Certain children are also "automatically eligible" including: ● children who participated in Head Start or attended a *Title I* preschool program at any time in the prior two years; ● children who received services under Title I, Part C (migrant education) in the prior 2 years; ● preschool children experiencing homelessness; and ● children who are in a local	**Income** ● Family's gross income is at or below 75% of the State Median Income level. ● Child of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States. ● Child of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who was injured and/or is receiving military disability retirement or was killed while serving on active duty. ● Child experiencing homelessness. ● Child is in foster care. Additional Information: ● Use scorecard to document eligibility ● Up to 20% of age eligible children enrolled may have family incomes more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the state median income if the child has identified risk factors such as educational need, developmental disability, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), chronic health condition,	**FAPE** A free appropriate public education (FAPE) must be available to all children residing in the State between the ages of three through 21, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school, as provided for in NC 1504-2.1(d). Any child with a disability who requires special education and related services and who has not graduated from high school is eligible to continue to receive a free appropriate public education until the end of the school year in which that child reaches the age of 22. (NC 1501-1.1) **Eligibility** Each LEA must conduct a full and individual initial evaluation (including progress monitoring data) in accordance with NC 1503-2.4 through NC 1503-2.7 before the initial provision of special education and related services to a child with a disability under these Policies. (NC 1503-2.2(a)) Upon referral, each child is entitled

Family Size	Income
2	17,240
3	21,720
4	26,200
Add $4,480 for each additional person	

institution/attending community day program for neglected/delinquent children/youth.

Note: "Automatically eligible" does not mean "automatically enrolled"

Family income may also be used to determine eligibility, but not as the sole determinant. For example, after the selection process has been completed and a rank-ordered list has been compiled, income could be used to further rank two children tied for rank ordering.

etc.
- Contract Administrators are strongly encouraged to serve children who have received no prior early education services outside the home in a group setting.

Family Size	Income
2	39,129
3	48,335
4	57,542
Effective January 1, 2019	

to a comprehensive evaluation. Procedural Safeguards (legal rights) are provided to each family and child with a disability.

Guiding Practices in Early Childhood Transition - Outlines activities, timelines, and recommended practices to facilitate a child's transition from the Infant-Toddler Program (Part C) to the Preschool Program (Part B)

Data	2019 Enrollment-25,912 - Pregnant women-267 - Birth to 3-6,136 - 3 year olds-8,527 - 4 year olds-10,907 - 5 years old and older-75 - 1491 Classrooms	Title I Preschool served 11,911 children in 2019-20: - Title I-6,552 - Title I Blended-5,359 LEAs allocated $57,715,908 for Title I Preschool. *Data self reported by LEAs in CCIP	NC Pre-K served 29,500 children in 2018-19. 91 contract administrators: - 42 LEAs - 46 Smart Start Partnerships - 3 Head Start programs	April 2020 Head Count - 3-5 year olds in PreK: 17,666 - 5 year olds in K: 4,996 - 2018-2019 State Child Find Notification & Referral: 22,949 NC Preschool EC Data Displays NC DPI EC Child Count Reports
Resources	- Office of Head Start - Head Start Act - Head Start Program Performance Standards - OHS COVID-19 Updates	- Title I Preschool Guidance/Regulations	- NC Pre-K Program Requirements - NC Pre-K Interim COVID-19 Reopening Guidance	- IDEA - NC Policies Governing Services for Students with Disabilities - Parent Rights & Responsibilities in Special Education: NC Notice of Procedural Safeguards - **LEA Preschool EC Coordinators contact list**

Webinar: Eligibility and Enrollment for NC Preschool Programs during COVID-19 with Joint Interim Guidance and Strategies Barriers to Expansion of NC Pre-K