



Peer Pal Application and Guidelines 2025-2026

The Exceptional Children’s (EC) Preschool Program of Union County Public Schools accepts a limited number of typically developing children for preschool inclusion. Children must be 3 or 4 years of age by August 31 for consideration. Please refer to the Peer Pal Guidelines for detailed program information.

Child’s Full Name:	Date of Birth:
Race:	Gender:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Home Address:
Email Address:	Phone Number:
Is the parent/guardian a UCPS employee?	If so, what school or location?
Child medical or health concerns:	Emergency Contact Name/Number:
Date of Application:	Date Application Received by the School:
Home Language:	

There are general developmental expectations for Peer Pals in order to be considered a good fit for our classroom inclusion needs. See the Peer Pal Guidelines for more specific information. Please place a checkmark by the skills that your child is able to do at the time of the application.

- Put socks, shoes and coat on independently
- Puts shirt and pants on independently
- Undresses independently
- Manages bathroom independently (potty trained, can pull pants up and down, wipe, flush and wash hands)
- Can blow and wipe nose
- Follows directions
- Participates in conversations with other children
- Language is understandable to an adult
- Adjusts well to separation from parent

- Interacts positively with other children
- Manages the emotions of anger and upset appropriately
- Understands the idea of sharing and taking turns

Peer Pal Guidelines:

The EC Preschool Program in Union County Schools reserves a limited number of spaces in some preschool classrooms for typically developing children for preschool inclusion. Students must be 3 or 4 years old by August 31st to be considered for entry. EC Preschool classrooms serve students with a variety of challenges, including but not limited to, speech-language delays, developmental delays, Autism, and other health impairments. Peer Pals will be learning alongside children with these challenges. EC Preschool classrooms are located at various elementary schools throughout the county. Preference will be given to UCPS employees' children. If there are additional slots available, those will be open to the public. Placement of Peer Pals will be determined by completed application by the due date, and an observation by the classroom teacher to determine best fit. Peer Pal applications will be accepted from March 1, 2025- May 1, 2025.

General Information:

- Peer Pals must live in Union County or have a parent/guardian employed by UCPS
- Peer Pal tuition is a flat rate of \$275.00 monthly for classrooms operating 5 days a week. The rate of \$175.00 monthly for classrooms operating 3 days a week.
- Tuition is due the first day of the month, September-May. No tuition will be charged during August or June
- No credit is given for child absences, observed holidays, teacher workdays, or school breaks. Tuition is already offered at a rate that accounts for these breaks or absences
- If tuition is one month late, your child may not return until tuition is paid in full
- Checks must be made payable to the school where your child is enrolled
- Upon acceptance, a school registration packet must be submitted along with a birth certificate, health assessment form, and up-to-date immunization record
- Parents must provide all transportation. No after school is offered. Late pick-ups are subject to dismissal from the program
- The child must be fully potty trained
- The classroom will follow the UCPS Traditional School calendar and any weather-related changes
- Due to the limited number of slots available, only a few applicants will be invited in to visit the classroom and teacher. At the time of the invitation, your child will be observed for the ability to participate in a classroom setting and to be a role model for our EC students. If selected for the Peer Pal Program, you will be notified by June 11, 2025, of our selection.
- **At this time we cannot confirm which classrooms will operate 3 or 5 days/week.**

The EC Preschool classrooms that accept Peer Pals are at the following elementary schools. Please indicate 1st and 2nd choice of schools by placing a 1 or 2 by the school name. Email the completed Peer Pal application to the email address of your first choice below. You may also drop the application off to your school of first choice. If you choose to drop off, please send an email to the contact of your choice letting them know you have dropped off the document.

_____ Benton Heights Elementary - Elizabeth.Hudson@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ East Elementary - Rossy.Cuevas@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Hemby Bridge Elementary - Mackenzie.Courtney@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Indian Trail Elementary - Jill.Rakoci@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Marvin Elementary - Michelle.Heefner@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ New Town Elementary - Holly.Alexander@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Porter Ridge Elementary - AprilDawn.williams@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Sardis Elementary - TammyL.Brink@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Shiloh Valley Primary - Carolynn.Bonner@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Unionville Elementary - Allison.Duncan@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Walter Bickett Education Center - Sherry.Gaither@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Waxhaw Elementary - Jennifer.Hinson@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Wingate Elementary - Colleen.Summers@ucps.k12.nc.us

_____ Weddington Elementary - Nydia.Hoard@ucps.k12.nc.us

Any questions please contact diana.ay@ucps.k12.nc.us. The Pre-K Department reserves the right to relocate PreK classrooms based on district needs. Relocations could occur during the summer months. If this happens, you will be notified of the school change.

Your signature below indicates that you have completed this application and understand and agree to all the guidelines outlined in this document.

Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:
----------------------------	-------