

Your child may be eligible for free preschool!

Simply call:



Or go to:

www.greatstartjackson.org

and fill out an application or call any of the programs listed below...

ABC Academy	784-9161
Columbia School District	581-4134
Community Action Agency <i>Head Start and GSRP</i>	788-6010
The daVinci Institute	780-9980
Lil' Kiddos Playhouse	536-7275
Little Rainbows	796-1000
Michigan Center Schools	764-3380
Napoleon Community Schools	905-5701
Northwest Community Schools	817-4741
Phoenix Child Care & Academy	789-9551
Springport Public Schools	857-3465
St. Mary's Child Care	784-3366
Vandercook Lake Public Schools	784-6133
Western School District	841-8700

The Great Start Collaborative is made up of community organizations, parents, business leaders, human service providers, early care and education professionals, non-profits, physical and mental health providers and charitable organizations all working together to ensure a great start for every child in Jackson County.

We are always looking for more people to help us make Jackson a better community for our children and grandchildren.



Give us a call and find out how you can help!

This resource was made possible by a grant from the Michigan Department of Education.
For more information about the work of Great Start in your community please contact:

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
Kelly Sheppard, Coordinator
6700 Browns Lake Rd
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: 517-768-5281



www.greatstartjackson.org

Jackson County Free Preschool Programs

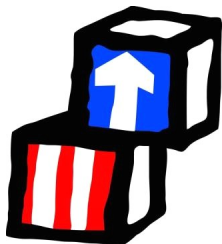


Serving children
ages 3-5
throughout
Jackson County



Head Start

- Free preschool program funded by the federal government
- Children of all abilities can participate in the program
- Programs for three and four year old children
- Teachers are certified in Early Childhood Education
- 2 or 3 Teachers to every 15-18 students
- Research based curriculum that includes health, safety, literacy and social development
- Offers a mix of full and part day programs
- Childcare to extend the day is available at some locations
- Limited transportation is available
- Meals and snacks are provided in all programs
- Parent involvement is encouraged and supported through classroom volunteering, parent meetings and activities



4 Ways Preschool Benefits Your Child

Having children attend a quality preschool program prepares them to be successful in kindergarten and beyond.

Did you know?

1. 90% of a child's brain development happens in the first 5 years.
2. Preschool activities help build a child's math, language and literacy skills.
3. Preschool teaches children how to share, follow instructions, work with others and make choices in a group setting.
4. Between the ages of 3 and 5, a child learns 1,600 new words and can practice using them in a preschool setting with other children.

What Families Usually Qualify for These Programs?

- Single-parent and military families
- Working families
- Children in foster care
- Homeless families
- Children who might have special needs
- Families who have a child that gets free or reduced lunch

Income Eligibility Example for the Great Start Readiness Preschool

Families of 4 people, with an annual income of \$58,875 and below qualify for FREE preschool.

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

- Free preschool program funded by the state of Michigan for four year olds.
- Children of all abilities can participate in the program
- Teachers are certified in Early Childhood Education
- 2 or 3 Teachers to every 15-18 students
- Research based curriculum that includes health, safety, literacy and social development.
- Offers a mix of full and part day programs
- Childcare to extend the day is available at some programs
- Transportation is available for some programs
- Meals and snacks are provided depending on the length of the program
- Parent involvement is encouraged and supported through classroom volunteering, parent meetings and activities

