

Pre-K for All 2018-19 Instructional Tracks

Continuing in the 2018-19 school year, every Pre-K for All program will participate in an instructional track for professional learning.

Track Goals

During the 2018-19 school year, pre-K professional learning will...

- Continue to support programs in meeting the Pre-K for All Program Quality Standards ([POS](#)).
- Advance student learning based on the Prekindergarten Foundation for the Common Core ([PKFCC](#)).
- Build on the successes of professional learning in 2017-18 while incorporating teacher and leader feedback.
- Build capacity at the classroom and program level by continuing to support leaders and teachers.
- Meet the needs of teachers, leaders, families, and children from all backgrounds.

Track Details

- Pre-K lead teachers, assistant teachers, and paraprofessionals will attend professional learning sessions, which will take place on track-specific non-attendance days.
- Pre-K leaders will attend three professional learning sessions.
- Track-specific non-attendance days will be emailed directly to leaders in late spring, and will not be listed on the Central NYC Department of Education (DOE) calendar.
- Professional learning sessions will take place in multiple locations across the five boroughs. Travel between boroughs to sessions may be required.

Track Placement

Pre-K leaders will be able to express preference in the instructional tracks through a survey shared in late February. Programs will be notified of their track placement in late spring. Please note that track placement will be determined based on a variety of factors, such as site preference, need, and track capacity. The Division of Early Childhood Education (DECE) will do its best to accommodate preferences.

Please note the professional learning instructional tracks are only available to Pre-K for All sites. Information about 3-K for All professional learning will be shared via the 3-K Bulletin.

Please email prekinstruction@schools.nyc.gov with any questions.






NYC Pre-K Create

Focus: Provide leaders and teachers with strategies to incorporate the visual arts, dance, theater, and music into instruction to provide opportunities for children to explore new concepts, express themselves, and make connections across learning domains.

Overview: Leaders and teachers will learn how to incorporate the visual arts, dance, theater, and music into their instruction to promote student learning in multiple PKFCC domains and [Arts Blueprint](#) strands. Sessions will include the delivery of content from experts in the field, and experiential application of content, opportunities for peer exchange, and time to consider how to integrate the content into their programs.



Participating pre-K programs will receive a toolkit of resources that will also be used in the actual workshop training. Age appropriate and PKFCC-aligned picture books, pedagogical resources, and art-specific resources such as musical instruments, visual arts supplies, simple costume pieces, and CDs for movement activities are included.

Track Duration: NYC Pre-K Create is a one-year track for programs that start in fall 2018.

NYC Pre-K Explore

Focus: Provide leaders and teachers with strategies to increase children's critical thinking and problem solving skills through a comprehensive interdisciplinary learning experience.

Overview: Leaders and teachers will learn how to teach concept development and problem solving as well as how to support students in developing inquiry, language, and higher order thinking skills through strategies such as open-ended questioning, reflection, vocabulary development, and purposeful play. Participating programs will use the evidence-based Building Blocks math curriculum with the research-based Pre-K for All Interdisciplinary Units of Study. These curricula are designed to work together and are aligned to the PKFCC and the three DOE-approved Authentic Assessment Systems.

Participating pre-K programs will receive with materials needed to implement Building Blocks in their classrooms, as well as professional learning sessions and onsite coaching provided by experts in the field to support the integration and implementation of Building Blocks and the [Pre-K for All Interdisciplinary Units of Study](#). **Pre-K programs in the Explore track must use only the Pre-K for All Interdisciplinary Units of Study and Building Blocks for their pre-K curricula during the 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years.**

Track Duration: NYC Pre-K Explore is a two-year track for programs that start in fall 2018. DECE will hold a two-day Summer Institute in late August for all teaching staff new to Explore.

NYC Pre-K Thrive

Focus: Provide leaders and teachers with evidence-based practices to strengthen family engagement and children's social-emotional development.

Overview: Leaders and teachers will learn concrete strategies to promote safe, nurturing, and predictable environments at school and at home, and ultimately to ensure that all children develop the social, emotional, and behavioral regulation skills that are foundational for learning.

Participating pre-K programs will receive innovative tools and resources to support the use of evidence-based practices in daily interactions with children and families for use in the classroom and at home. Sessions will include interactive, experiential learning activities that support participants in exploring the connections between family engagement and social emotional development. Sessions will provide many opportunities for practicing strategies, including building relationships and navigating difficult conversations with families, identifying antecedents of challenging behavior in the classroom, and scaffolding social emotional skills with proactive, reinforcement, and responsive strategies. To foster a sense of community among participants, teachers and leaders will stay in the same "learning pods" for each professional learning session.

NYC Pre-K Thrive is part of ThriveNYC, a citywide, mayoral initiative to support the mental health of all New Yorkers, including pre-K children. Professional learning is supported by the Center for Early Childhood Health and Development at the NYU Langone Medical Center.

Track Duration: NYC Pre-K Thrive is a one-year track for programs that start in fall 2018.

NYC Pre-K Inspire

Focus: Provide leaders and teachers with strategies that incorporate rigorous and developmentally appropriate instruction and family engagement practices aligned to the Program Quality Standards (PQS) and support children in gaining the knowledge and skills outlined in the New York State Prekindergarten Foundation for the Common Core (PKFCC).

Overview: Leaders and teachers will learn practical strategies to continually deepen and improve their practice in multiple content areas, such as assessment, classroom management, critical thinking, and language development. Sessions will include a variety of content that addresses key early childhood instructional and family engagement practices aligned to the PQS.

For the 2018-19 school year, programs will participate in one of two topic areas within NYC Pre-K Inspire. Continuing pre-K Inspire programs will have the opportunity to delve deeper into the topic areas.

- Extending Language and Critical Thinking Throughout the Day (Focus on PQS 8: Engaging Children in Meaningful Activity)
- Cultivating Supportive Interactions and Communities (Focus on PQS 9: Creating a Positive Classroom Culture)

Track Duration: NYC Pre-K Inspire is a one-year track for programs that start in fall 2018, with the possibility of participating in NYC Pre-K Inspire for multiple years.

