

Pre-K Quality Snapshot Educator FAQ



What is the Pre-K Quality Snapshot? The Pre-K Quality Snapshot is an informational tool that can help families understand different elements of quality at Pre-K for All programs across New York City. The Snapshot contains data from ECERS-R and CLASS assessments, the NYC School Survey, and the Quality Review (for District Schools). Our goal is to give families information to help them find the program that best meets their child's needs.

The Snapshot is one of many ways to learn about quality. We also encourage families to visit pre-K programs to observe, ask questions to pre-K leaders and teachers, and talk to other families about their experiences in pre-K. All pre-K programs, including NYCDOE District Schools, Pre-K Centers, New York City Early Education Centers (NYCEECs), and Charter Schools, are held to the same [Pre-K for All Program Quality Standards](#).

How is the Pre-K Quality Snapshot useful for pre-K program leaders? Program leaders can use the Pre-K Quality Snapshot in the following ways:

- To guide conversations with families during the pre-K enrollment period.
- To highlight areas of strength and opportunities for growth in your pre-K program.
- To target professional development and identify changes that could support quality improvements in your pre-K program in partnership with DECE coaches.
 - Program leaders can find more information on how to use CLASS and ECERS-R data in planning by visiting the program assessments page [here](#).

How can I access the Pre-K Quality Snapshot online? To access the Pre-K Quality Snapshot:

- Visit the Pre-K Finder at maps.nyc.gov/prek
- Click on the pre-K program you'd like to learn more about
- Click the "Pre-K Snapshot" button

How is quality measured on the Snapshot? The Snapshot includes results from the [NYC School Survey](#) of Families and Teachers as well as data from program assessments. "Program assessments" are based on observations that happen in pre-K classrooms. NYCDOE assessment specialists are trained to measure quality and give programs their assessment scores. Assessment specialists use the following three measurement tools:

- The **Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)** is a national tool that looks at interactions that happen between teachers and children in pre-K classrooms.
- The **Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-R)** is a national tool that looks at the pre-K learning environment. This includes things like the classroom and playground layout, the way children are supervised, the materials they have to use, and the amount of time they have to play.



- The **Quality Review** is a process developed by the NYCDOE that looks at how well district schools are organized to support student learning and teacher practice. The Quality Review looks at the entire school, not just the pre-K program.

CLASS, ECERS-R, and the Quality Review do not happen every year for each program, but you can find the most recent information from the past three school years in the Snapshot, including the date that each assessment happened.

I have questions about my CLASS/ECERS-R assessments. Where can I get more information?

For more specific information about CLASS and ECERS-R assessments, please review your program's comprehensive reports. To receive an electronic copy of your program's CLASS/ECERS-R reports, email programassessment@schools.nyc.gov.

What do the ratings in the Snapshot mean? The ratings in the Snapshot show a program's strengths and areas for growth. For areas that are measured by the CLASS and ECERS-R assessments, results are shown on a four bar rating scale. Four bars means the program is Excellent in that area, three bars means Good, two bars means Fair, and one bar means Needs Improvement. The bar ratings in the Pre-K Quality Snapshot are based on results of the program assessments discussed above.



For areas measured by the NYC School Survey, the Snapshot shows the percentage of families who answered that question positively.




The Pre-K Quality Snapshot shows each of the program's ratings next to the average rating for other programs in the same school district. This allows families to compare each program to the other programs nearby to help them find the program that best meets their child's and family's needs.

Why do some programs not have Snapshots or have "N/A" on their Snapshots? If a program does not have a Snapshot, it means that data is not available for that program. If a program has "N/A" on its Snapshot, it means that program assessment data is not available for that specific area. This can happen in programs that are new to Pre-K for All. Having an "N/A" or not having a Snapshot does not mean that the program is not high-quality; it simply means we have not yet measured it.

What do I do if I think there is a data error in my Pre-K Quality Snapshot? If you have concerns that your ECERS-R, CLASS, or NYC School Survey data do not match your records, please contact programassessment@schools.nyc.gov.

How can I improve my program's scores? Program leaders can use the Snapshot to target professional development and identify changes to improve quality in Pre-K for All classrooms over time, in partnership with coaches/support from the DECE. The DECE's Instructional Coaches and





Social Workers provide differentiated support to Pre-K for All programs tailored to program needs. The ECERS-R, CLASS, and NYC School Survey data contained in Pre-K Quality Snapshots are one of several data sources that the DECE uses to make decisions about the supports provided to Pre-K for All programs. If you are looking for more specific training about the content of the CLASS and the ECERS-R, the DECE Program Assessment team provides regular trainings about the tools. Information about these and online webinars can be found on the [Program Assessment Website](#).

Helpful Links

- [Pre-K Application Information](#)
- [Pre-K Finder](#)
- [Framework for Great Schools](#)
- [Pre-K for All Program Quality Standards](#)
- [Program Assessments Information](#)
- [NYC School Survey](#)
- [Quality Review](#)

