

For Immediate Release

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2022-2023 Enrollment for Pre-K 4 SA Begins February 1 High-quality prek program teaches 4-year-olds; provides needed resources to families

SAN ANTONIO — Pre-K 4 SA will open prekindergarten enrollment for its 2022-23 school year on February 1. The application process serves families of 4-year-olds across San Antonio on a first come, first served basis. Pre-K 4 SA is open to any child in San Antonio that is four years old on or before September 1.

The open enrollment process is managed educational case managers to assist families and help eliminate the stress for those seeking high-quality prekindergarten. Families have the option to choose one of Pre-K 4 SA's four model education centers, in addition to its replication site, Gardendale Early Learning Program which teaches children in pre-k through second grade within the Edgewood Independent School District.

Parents of eligible students can apply in one of two ways:

- 1. Online complete the entire application process at https://prek4sa.com/parents/prospective-parents/application/
- 2. Call talk to a Pre-K 4 SA staff member on the Enrollment Hotline at (210) 206-PREK

Pre-K 4 SA is open to all families living in San Antonio. Children who qualify by meeting the <u>Texas</u> <u>Education Agency (TEA) eligibility requirements</u> to attend for free. Pre-K 4 SA provides scholarships for middle income families making up to \$75,000 so their children can also attend for free. Each of the four education centers will be filled as qualifying applications are received.

"Our trained educational case managers help families navigate the enrollment process and immediately begin building relationships with our children and their families as they prepare for high-quality early learning," Pre-K 4 SA CEO Sarah Baray said. "Pre-K 4 SA has become a trusted source when it comes to young children in our community. Living up to our commitment to ensure the health and safety of its children, families and staff, Pre-K 4 SA will continue to follow a comprehensive set of health safety protocols for the 2022-2023 school year to help keep colds, flu, and other viruses from our classrooms."

Accepted applicants will be notified by email beginning Monday, February 7. Notifications will continue each Monday as space is available at each Center. Enrollment at the four education centers is limited. Pre-K 4 SA will provide help to families who may need help finding other high-quality pre-kindergarten options if there are not enough seats at a Pre-K 4 SA center.

"Not only is Pre-K 4 SA preparing our children for a successful future, but we are also laying the foundation for children to become thoughtful, productive, and civic-minded citizens," Pre-K 4 SA Board Chair Elaine Mendoza said. "Throughout the last two years Pre-K 4 SA has developed a depth of connection with our families and our community that demonstrates our role as an integral partner and resource. We have helped our families keep nutritious foods on their tables, helped parents and fellow educators receive essential training to support high-quality early learning in safe and healthy environment, and work with Metro Health to offer free COVID vaccines and testing."

About Pre-K 4 SA:

Pre-K 4 SA is a comprehensive early childhood initiative aimed at changing the education and workforce trajectory of San Antonio in one generation. Pre-K 4 SA offers full-day pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds living in the City of San Antonio. Pre-K 4 SA is free for qualifying students and also accepts tuition-paying students. The school day begins at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Extended

hours are available at no additional charge from 7:15 to 7:75 a.m., and from 3 to 6 p.m. for working families. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks are included and free transportation is available to all students. Pre-K 4 SA has four Education Centers located throughout the city: North Education Center, 3635 Medical Dr.; South Education Center, 7031 S. New Braunfels Ave.; East Education Center, 5230 Eisenhauer Rd.; and West Education Center, 1235 Enrique M. Barrera Memorial Parkway. The Gardendale Early Learning Program powered by Pre-K 4 SA is the first replication site and was made possible through a partnership with Edgewood Independent School District. This program creates greater capacity for high-quality early education with both pre-k and kindergarten classrooms. The Pre-K 4 SA Professional Learning program provides pre-kindergarten through third grade educators in San Antonio with complementary continuing education to support best practice instruction to help every child in San Antonio excel. The Pre-K 4 SA Competitive Grants program provides more than \$4 million in funding annually to increase quality and access in early childhood programs throughout San Antonio. Visit www.prek4sa.com for more information.

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