

PHLpreK Glossary of Terms

Unless specified otherwise, words, phrases, abbreviations and/or acronyms have the following meanings:

Administrative Intermediary. Used in this document to refer to Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), the administrative and fiscal management agency selected by the City to administer its Pre-K program.

Bachelor's Degree. Four-year degree granted by an accredited college or university.

Continuation Application Process (CAP). This is the application process for providers who were contracted in the PHLpreK program in FY19 and wish to reapply for FY20.

Child Care Center (CCC). The premise on which care is provided at any one time for seven or more children unrelated to the operator. The facility must comply with the regulations at 55 Pa Code Chapter 3270 and must have a certificate of compliance from DHS in order to legally operate.

Child Care Works (a.k.a. Child Care Subsidy). Pennsylvania's child care subsidy program funded through a federal-state partnership to increase the accessibility of child care for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), former TANF and low-income working families who earn up to 200% of poverty at the time of application.

Child Care Information Services (CCIS). Agencies contracted by Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) to screen and verify family eligibility for Child Care Works, provide information and referral to families, and pay child care providers for subsidized enrollment.

Child Development Associate (CDA). Early learning credential granted that requires at least six credit hours of coursework in early childhood education and development.

CLASS. An observational system that assesses classroom practices in preschool and kindergarten by measuring the interactions between students and adults. The CLASS is a tool used by NIEER in their evaluation of the PHLpreK program.

DHS. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, formerly known as Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW).

Director's Credential. Early learning credential designed as a standard to measure and validate the abilities and competencies of directors and administrators to manage high quality early childhood programs.

EduSnap. A tool that provides quantification of the experiences that children have throughout the school day. This measure provides an in-depth look at how students experience their day by documenting the actual time students spend in activity settings (e.g., whole group, free choice, transitions), content areas (e.g., reading, science, math), student learning approaches (e.g.,

collaboration, meta cognition), and teaching approaches (e.g., didactic, scaffolds). EduSnap is a tool used by NIEER in their evaluation of the PHLpreK program.

Early Head Start. Federal early childhood program available for infants and toddlers from families that live at or below the poverty level. Provides home visiting or high quality early learning, supportive services and family engagement.

Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC). ELRCs will provide a single point-of-contact for families, early learning service providers, and communities to gain information and access services that support high-quality child care and early learning programs.

Environment Rating Scale (ERS). Classroom observation tool designed to assess program quality in early childhood center- and home-based classrooms serving infants, toddlers and preschool children; a reliable and valid tool used as part of Keystone STARS and Pennsylvania's Pre-K Counts program.

Early Intervention. Provides support and services to families with children birth to age five, who have developmental delays and disabilities. It includes support services and resources for children that enhance daily opportunities for learning provided in settings where a child would be if he/she did not have a developmental delay and disability.

ELWYN. A human services organization, serving disabled and disadvantaged children. They provide preschool Early Intervention services, perform multi-disciplinary evaluations, and contract with provider agencies for ongoing Preschool Early Intervention services.

Environmental Rating Scale (ERS). Classroom observation tool designed to assess program quality in early childhood center- and home-based classrooms serving infants, toddlers and preschool children; a reliable and valid tool used as part of Keystone STARS and Pennsylvania's Pre-K Counts program.

Equipment. Equipment means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds \$3,000.

Family Child Care Home (FCCH) . A home other than the child's own home, operated for profit or not-for-profit, in which child day care is provided at any one time to 4, 5, or 6 children unrelated to the operator. A family child day care home must comply with the regulations at 55 Pa Code Chapter 3290 and must have a certificate of compliance from DHS in order to legally operate.

Family Style Meal: In family style meal service, food and beverages for the meal are placed in common serving bowls, plates, dishes, pitchers, and containers on the table. Foods are passed around the table and children serve themselves how much and what they would like to eat, with the help of an adult when needed.

Group Child Care Home (GCCH). Premises in which care is provided at one time for more than 6 but fewer than 13 children who are unrelated to the operator. The term includes a facility

located in a residence or another premise. A GCCH must comply with the regulations at 55 Pa Code Chapter 3280 and have a DHS certificate of compliance in order to legally operate.

Growth Providers. PHLpreK Providers with sites located in Philadelphia that have not obtained a STAR 3 or STAR 4 rating or NAEYC accreditation.

Head Start. Federal early childhood education program available for preschool age children and their families and caregivers who live at or below the poverty level. Provides high quality early learning, supportive services and family engagement.

Hub Agencies: Agencies that serve as administrators for a subset of PHLpreK Providers. Hub Agencies are responsible for ensuring assigned Providers comply with the provisions of this Agreement, managing the contracts and invoicing with the assigned Providers.

Individualized Education Plan (IEP). A document that defines the individualized objectives of a child who has been determined to have a disability, as defined by federal regulations. Developing an IEP requires assessing students in all areas related to the known disabilities, simultaneously considering ability to access the general curriculum, considering how the disability affects the student's learning, forming goals and objectives that correspond to the needs of the student, and choosing a placement in the least restrictive environment possible for the student.

Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP). A plan for special services for young children with developmental delays that identifies individualized supports and services that will enhance the child's development. An IFSP only applies to children from birth to three years of age. Once a child turns 3 years old, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is put into place.

Keystone STARS. Pennsylvania's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for early childhood programs. Provides incentives and supports for programs to improve teacher and staff education and credentials, physical space and management.

MOE. The Mayor's Office of Education, a division of the Office of the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

NAEYC. The National Association for the Education of Young Children, a nonprofit professional membership organization that works to promote high-quality early learning for young children through professional development, policy advocacy and accreditation. NAEYC accreditation requirements have been cross walked with Keystone STAR 4 standards and Pennsylvania has a specific process for accredited programs to obtain STARS designation.

National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER). Conducts academic research to inform policy supporting high-quality, early education for all young children. Such education promotes the physical, cognitive and social development needed for children to succeed in school and later life. NIEER is conducting a three-year evaluation of the PHLpreK program to provide feedback on program design and implementation, as well as an analysis of impacts on children's learning and development.

OCDEL. Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning. Responsible for policy, programs, funding and regulatory oversight of early learning programs for children from birth to five.

PA Career Pathway. Created by the PA Early Learning Keys to Quality to guide the education, professional growth and development of ECE professionals. Visit the PA Keys website for more information. See Appendix A of the [Keystone STARS Performance Standards](#).

PELICAN. Pennsylvania Enterprise to Link Information for Children Across Networks, the State information management system that collects data relevant to Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts, Head Start Supplemental Assistance, Keystone STARS, Child Care Works and Child Care Certification.

PHLpreK. Pre-Kindergarten funded by the City of Philadelphia.

Pre-K. Structured early childhood education program for children who have attained at least the age of three and are not yet age-eligible for kindergarten.

Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts. Pennsylvania's quality early education program for three- and four-year olds whose families make less than 300% of the federal poverty level.

Philadelphia Regional Key (PRK). PRK works in partnership with OCDEL to develop and implement quality improvements and support in Pennsylvania's early childhood education system.

Priority Neighborhoods. Philadelphia neighborhoods that demonstrate need based on the number of young children with exposure to two or more early childhood risk factors, the percentage of children living at or below the federal poverty level, and a shortage of high-quality early learning options, as prioritized by the Mayor's Office of Education in its sole discretion. Early childhood risk factors are lead exposure, homelessness, child maltreatment, inadequate prenatal care, teen parents and low maternal education, based on data compiled from the City of Philadelphia, American Community Survey and The Reinvestment Fund.

Quality Providers. PHLpreK Providers with sites located in Philadelphia that are STAR 3 or STAR 4 accredited .

Request for Qualifications (RFQ). This is the application process for new providers interested in becoming a part of the PHLpreK program in FY20.

Teacher Certification. Process designed to prepare qualified teachers and enable them to demonstrate proficiency in a subject area once they have obtained a Bachelor's Degree.