

# Guide for Student's Pre-K Experience

## **Child Care Center**

A child care facility in which seven or more children who are not related to the operator receive child care. A child care center must have a certificate of compliance (“license”) from the Department of Human Services (DHS) in order to legally operate.

## **Family Child Care**

A child care facility located in a home in which four, five, or six children who are not related to the caregiver receive child care. A family child care home must have a certificate of compliance (“license”) from DHS in order to legally operate.

## **Head Start**

A national program administered by the Office of Head Start within the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Head Start programs provide comprehensive services for low-income children from birth to entry into kindergarten. Head Start services are designed to address developmental goals for children, employment and self-sufficiency goals for adults, and support for parents in their work and child-caring roles.

## **Home-based Care**

Care offered by someone else within the family's home. Often a family member or a nanny.

## **Licensed Private Academic Nursery Programs**

Private Academic Nursery Programs serve children ages 2 years 7 months to 5 years of age. Private Academic Nursery Programs are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

## **Locally Funded Prek Program**

Prekindergarten programming financially supported by the local economy/government.

## **Pre-K Counts**

The Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts pre-kindergarten program, established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, makes quality pre-kindergarten opportunities available to children and families across the commonwealth.

The Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts program is designed for children who:

- are between age 3 and until the entry age for kindergarten;
- are at risk of school failure and living in families earning up to 300 percent of the federal income poverty level (such as a family of four earning \$67,050) who may also be English language learners or have special needs

## **Relative/Neighbor Care**

One caregiver who cares for one, two or three children not related to the caregiver and up to three additional children related to the caregiver. Relative/Neighbor programs receive no state oversight and have no health or safety requirements.

## **School-Based Prekindergarten Programs**

School districts in state where prekindergarten program is offered. Other program type includes kindergarten for 4 year olds or K4.

## **None**

Child has stayed at home with family member.

## **Don't Know/Can't Answer**