



2024-25 Transitional Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions

What is Transitional Kindergarten?

Transitional kindergarten (TK) is the **first year of a two-year kindergarten program** that uses a developmentally and age-appropriate curriculum. TK does not replicate preschool or kindergarten. It addresses the child's language, literacy, and pre-math skills with an emphasis on social and emotional development. The program utilizes a play-based model to develop the whole child, and promote cognitive, physical, and emotional growth. Research shows that children are more successful when provided with a strong foundation of learning in their earliest years. With the passage of AB 130, California has committed to providing TK access to all 4-year-olds by the 2025-26 school year.

Who can attend Transitional Kindergarten?

Children who turn 5 between September 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025 are eligible to enroll in TK for the 2024-2025 school year.

My child turns 5 on June 3, 2025. Can an exception be made for my child to enroll in TK?

Per Ed Code, students must be enrolled in their age-appropriate grade level. For the 2024-2025 school year, children must turn 5 on or before June 2, 2025 to attend TK. Assessments are not used to determine TK enrollment eligibility.

My child turns 5 on April 3, 2024. Can I enroll my child to attend TK in this school year (2022-23)?

A child must turn 5 by April 2, 2024 to enroll in TK in the 2023-24 (current) school year.

My child has a birthday that falls within the TK age-eligibility window. Can my child skip TK and enroll directly in kindergarten?

A child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024 to enroll in kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year ([BP 5111](#); [AR 5111](#)) Please see the [TUSD Grade Level Placement Criteria](#) for more information.

My child will turn 5 during their TK year. Can they move to kindergarten when they turn 5?

Sometimes families feel that a student who has begun TK is better suited for kindergarten once they turn 5 years old. If you were to request such a move, screening/assessment is required to be conducted by Torrance Unified School District teachers (per Ed Code) to determine if your child is ready and would benefit from grade acceleration. Moving students from TK to kindergarten during the year is not recommended as the TK program is meant to prepare them for kindergarten success. More information regarding this process can be found [HERE](#).

What will the Transitional Kindergarten program look like for my child?

The TK program is taught by credentialed teachers and runs 5 days a week for approximately 200 minutes per day, the same amount of minutes as a typical Kindergarten day. TK offers a developmentally appropriate curriculum that allows students to explore, create, and learn through purposeful play-based activities. Social-emotional, fine motor and academic skills are all integrated into this hands-on program to build a strong foundation for meeting the rigors of kindergarten the following year.

How is TK different from Kindergarten?

TK is a bridge from preschool to kindergarten. **It does not replace kindergarten.** The program uses the California Preschool Learning Foundations to lay a solid educational foundation and prepare our youngest learners for future academic success.

When can I sign my child up for Transitional Kindergarten?

The 2024-25 TK and Kindergarten enrollment window will run from Monday, February 5th through Monday, February 26th. Enrollment is all done online and the enrollment dates are based on your school of residence. Please visit the [Enrollment Website](#) for more detailed information.

Where do I enroll?

Our enrollment process is all online. The online enrollment application and forms are available on the Torrance Unified School District website at: <https://www.tusd.org/enrollment>

Will there be space for everyone interested in Transitional Kindergarten?

All students turning 5 between September 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025 are guaranteed a space in the Transitional Kindergarten Program for the 2024-25 school year.

Where will the Transitional Kindergarten classes be held?

Although all elementary schools in TUSD house a TK classroom, the number of TK classes at each school site for the 2024-25 school year will be finalized based on enrollment.

Is TK mandatory?

Children who attend TK are more likely to thrive in school both academically and socio-emotionally, however, TK is not a mandatory grade. Families with students who turn 5 between September 2nd, 2024, and June 2nd, 2025 have the option to enroll in TK.

Do children in universal TK have to meet the same vaccination requirements as in regular kindergarten?

Yes. Under California's kindergarten immunization requirements, our 4-year-old students also need their pre-kindergarten immunizations before the first day of TK.

After attending the TK program, what grade will my child attend the following year?

Transitional Kindergarten is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program. Students will move to kindergarten the following year, have a space reserved for them at their home school, and will not have to re-enroll.

My child is in LAUNCH or Tykes preschool, do I still need to complete a new student enrollment for TK?

Yes. TK-12th grade is a separate enrollment from our preschool program.