

QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN BIRTH TO FIVE

Toolkit

THRIVE BIRTH TO FIVE

READY REGION Central



SOURCE: CENTER ON THE DEVELOPING CHILD, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

90%

of a child's brain development happens before age 5

When parents engage positively and consistently with their children in the early years, then children will be set up for success in school and in life.

High-quality early childhood care and education has a significant impact on the lives of children and their families.





THRIVE
BIRTH TO FIVE

Our vision: All children in our region will thrive and race, place, and income will no longer determine success in school.

Our mission: Thrive Birth to Five strengthens early childhood care and education by connecting families, providers and partners to the right resources, measuring what matters, and championing the support every child needs to start strong.

WHAT IS

Quality Early Care?

To prepare all children for kindergarten, Virginia's early childhood system ensures that all children have quality teaching and learning experiences that meet their unique needs. In response to state law, Virginia has developed the Unified Virginia Quality Birth to Five System (VQB5) to measure and help improve the quality of all publicly-funded birth to five classrooms and support families to choose quality programming across program types.

FINDING EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION FOR YOUR 0-5 YEAR OLD

VQB5 sites are focused on providing quality learning experiences for your child. This means your child's teacher is receiving feedback and support multiple times a year. All VQB5 sites receive Quality Ratings on an annual basis. VQB5 Quality Profiles are available for all publicly-funded programs.

SCAN FOR MORE



Virginia has many quality options for early childhood care and education for children aged birth to five.

What option is right for you?

Child Care Finder

Looking for Care?

Find quality early childhood care and education and explore which options work best for your family at **thriveb5.org**

HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

Free • Ages 0-5 • School Year

Free, federally-funded programs designed to promote school readiness for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers from families that meet income eligibility requirements.

VIRGINIA PRESCHOOL INITIATIVE (VPI)

Free • Ages 3-4 • School Year

A state program that provides high quality early childhood education for eligible three- and four-year-olds in Virginia not served by Head Start.

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

Little to no cost • Ages 6 weeks - 12 years • Year Round

A payment or voucher from the federal or state government to help families with the cost of child care.

MIXED DELIVERY

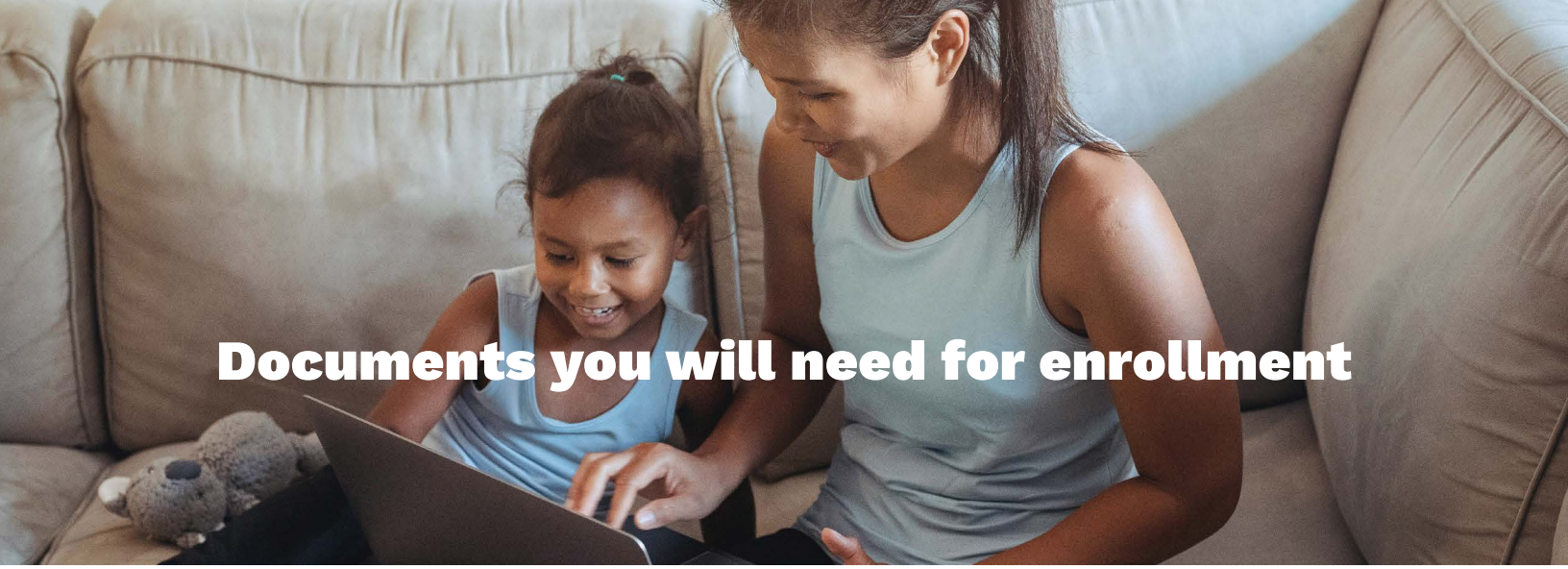
Little to no cost • Ages 0-5 • Year Round

A state-funded program that provides high quality early care and education in private settings. Families apply through participating providers for full-day, full-year care.

CITY OF RICHMOND EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION TRUST FUND

Little to no cost • Ages 0-5 • Year Round

A City of Richmond-funded program that provides high quality early childhood care and education in private settings. Families apply through their provider for full-day, full-year care. Families must reside in the City of Richmond to be eligible.



Documents you will need for enrollment

1 A CERTIFIED COPY OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE (NO PHOTO COPY)

5 ways to order a birth certificate

- Visit **www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records**
- Call 877-572-6333 (Option 1)
- By mail via Division of Vital Records: PO Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23218
- In person via VDH Division of Vital Records:
  8701 Park Central Drive, Suite 100,
  Richmond, VA 23227
- Department of Motor Vehicles:
  You must have 2 forms completed upon arrival; to access, visit **www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records**
  Locations vary; visit **www.dmv.virginia.gov/locations**

2 *TWO* PROOF OF RESIDENCY DOCUMENTS

1 A leasing agreement or mortgage statement is required

- If you live with someone, you must obtain a notarized letter from the titleholder, along with the lease or mortgage. Notaries are available at any public library for free or bank (will charge up to $5). (Will vary by locality.)

2 Utility bills, driver's license, government-issued ID, bank statement

3 MOST RECENT RECORD OF YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATIONS/SHOTS*

- Forms can be accessed online using the code to the right:*
- Contact your child's pediatrician.*

Visit **https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-schedules/child-easyread.html** for a list of recommended vaccines.

4 COPY OF YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL ENTRANCE HEALTH FORM*

- The form can be accessed online using the code to the right: (Arabic, Dari, Chinese, Korean, Pashto, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog and Ukranian currently available.)
- Contact your child's pediatrician.
- The physical must have been performed no more than twelve months prior to the date of entrance.

*If your child is in need of an immunization or physical, access your local health department contact by scanning this QR code.

5 IF APPLICABLE

- Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP)
  Parents may request a copy of their child's IFSP/IEP by contacting their service coordinator or school administrator.
- Court-ordered Custody Paperwork
  A copy can be obtained by contacting the Clerk of Court in the county where your case was filed. For more information visit: **www.vacourts.gov/courts/jdr**



Free At-Home Resources

Waitlists can feel daunting, but here are resources you can use in the meantime:

The Basics VIRGINIA

thebasicsvirginia.org

The Basics are five science–based parenting and care-giving principles that support social, emotional, and cognitive development of children birth to five.

- MAXIMIZE LOVE, MANAGE STRESS
- TALK, SING AND POINT
- COUNT, GROUP AND COMPARE
- EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT & PLAY
- READ AND DISCUSS STORIES

imaginationlibrary.org

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book-gifting program that mails free, high quality books to children from birth to age five, regardless of family income, to promote early childhood literacy and ensure every child has access to books during their most formative years.

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cdc.gov/act-early/milestones-app/index.html

Milestones matter! Track your child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with the CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips for encouraging your child's development, and find out what to do if you are ever concerned about how your child is developing.

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peatc.org

The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center, **PEATC**, is the parent information and training center serving families and professionals of children with disabilities in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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