

Assurances for the Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children 2025-2026 School Year

Superintendents,

Please complete the following information that addresses compliance and acknowledgement of the [Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children \(Guidelines\)](#) . This manual has been prepared for use by administrators, counselors, teachers, and other authorized staff in the pre-kindergarten programs of Mississippi and is to be used as a guide in facilitating state or other funded pre-kindergarten programs such as federal, local, tuition-based, and philanthropically funded programs. The Guidelines include guidance for any classroom that serves three- and four-year-old children including pre-kindergarten lab schools located on public school campuses and licensed by the Mississippi Department of Health.

In addition, school districts must address compliance and acknowledgment of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requiring local school districts receiving Title I funds to develop agreements with Head Start and other community-based early childhood providers to increase coordination and a more seamless transition to kindergarten.

School District Name	
School District Number	
Superintendent Name	
Email	
District Pre-K Administrator Name	
Email	
Number of 3-year-old pre-k classrooms (if applicable)	
Number of 4-year-old pre-k classrooms (if applicable)	
Number of Blended 3-year/4-year old classrooms (if applicable)	

Please initial on each line of the following items that you, the superintendent, understand and acknowledge the policies surrounding each component of the Guidelines/ESSA Requirements and intend to implement and follow procedure.

_____ *Researched- and evidence-based curriculum (Guidelines page 18)

_____ *Utilization of Early Learning Standards (Guidelines page 18)

_____ *Use of learning centers: utilization of thematic units, center daily use, center space limitations, use of technology (Guidelines page 18)

_____ *Staff requirements (Guidelines page 32)

_____ *Plan to achieve 15 hours of professional development specific to early childhood education (Guidelines page 42)

_____ *Maximum classroom size (Guidelines page 28)

- _____ *Teacher-child-ratios (Guidelines page 28)
- _____ *Screenings (Guidelines page 21)
- _____ *Program quality assessment (Guidelines page 25)
- _____ Utilization of thematic units and learning centers (Guidelines page 18)
- _____ Assessment (Guidelines page 21-22)
- _____ Educational materials (Guidelines page 21)
- _____ Organization/schedule for daily activities (Guidelines page 28)
- _____ Family engagement (Guidelines page 43)
- _____ Transportation (Guidelines page 44)
- _____ Physical settings (Guidelines page 45)
- _____ Outside play (Guidelines page 53)
- _____ MOU/MOA developed between your school district, Head Start and other community-based early childhood providers

**Indicates National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) benchmarks*

By signing this statement, _____ (superintendent name) hereby certifies and assures that the school district attesting to these assurances shall comply with the above components of the *Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children* in accordance with Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard 17.2 compliance requirements, MDE policy and requirements pertaining to this program, and the federal ESSA requirement of establishing an MOU/MOA between the school district and Head Start and other community-based programs. The applicant certifies further that the information submitted on this document is true and correct.

Date Signed: _____

FOR MDE OEC OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received: _____

Received by: _____



School Year 2025-2026