

Collaboration in UPK Webinar Questions and Answers

March 13, 2024

The following questions were submitted by attendees of Collaboration Best Practices Webinar, which took place on March 13, 2024, at 3:00 PM. The answers below were provided in response as of April 2024.

Q: If the Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program provided by an eligible collaborating agency is overseen by the district and housed in a district building, does that collaborating agency still need to have a license to provide Prekindergarten services?

A: According to Social Services Law §390, a collaborating agency can operate in a district. How do we determine the per pupil rate?

A: The most accurate method of calculating a school district's per pupil rate for UPK funding is to use calculation methods shown in districts' UPK Grant Output Reports in the [State Aid Management System](#)

[State Aid Management System](#) (SAMS). Using this method to calculate a projected allocation payable for one full-day pupil will identify the per pupil rate.

Begin by dividing one pupil by the district's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students needed to access the maximum UPK allocation for that age group. That quotient,

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agency that includes district need and program requirements. The Office of Early Learning recommends reaching out to neighboring districts for an example scoring rubric.

Q: In New York City, are public school buildings that have UPK required to fill out the RFP, as are the CBOs?

A: No, district buildings are not required to complete an RFP, as they receive their funding directly from The New York State Education Department's Office of Early Learning.

Q: Will the links to the classroom scoring system used by Whitney Point CSD be shared?

A: The two classroom scoring systems presented by the district were the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) and the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS). Links to the assessment tools mentioned during the webinar will not be provided.