



GSWB Preschool

2026-2027

Questions and Answers

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General Questions

1. What preschool programs are offered by GCSEC?

GCSEC offers the following preschool programs:

Tuition Based Preschool (GSWB Preschool)

5 day blended preschool

AM session only (8:00-10:30)

Located at Gardner Grade School

Preschool programs for students with special needs

Students must qualify for these programs

Visit www.grudyspecialled.org to schedule a screening

2. How many students will be able to participate in GSWB Preschool for the 2025-2026 school year?

We will have 10 spaces available during the AM sessions (8:00-10:30) at Gardner Grade School. The classroom will have up to 10 tuition-based students and 5 students with special needs, for a total of up to 15 students.

3. How will students be selected to participate in the tuition preschool program?

Students will be placed on a registration list in the order applications are received. If more than 10 students apply, a waitlist will be initiated for additional students.

Registration

4. Where can I find the registration application?

Call: GCSEC at 815.942.5780 or South Wilmington Grade School at 815.237.2281

Visit one of the following websites

www.grundyspecialled.org

<https://www.ggs72.org/>

<http://besprincipal.weebly.com/>

Or email scacello@swil74.org

5. What is the registration process for tuition preschool?

- January 26, 2026 ~ Application window for the program will open. Returning families will be contacted during this time to enroll for the 2026-2027 school year. If interested, they will be placed at the top of the application list.

- Preschool registration forms will be shared right away with families who are interested in the program and the first month's tuition will be processed on August 3, 2026 for new families.
- Families who do not complete registration paperwork and pay by the deadline will lose their tuition preschool slot and move to the bottom of the waitlist.
- Returning families will make their first payment on August 3, 2026 for the 2026-2027 school year.

6. What registration paperwork will be required?

Families will complete registration paperwork for both their Home District and Gardner Grade School. Registration packets will be available to pick up at Gardner Grade School. Registration packets may then also be returned to Gardner Grade School.

Tuition and Fees

7. How much will it cost for my student to attend the tuition preschool program?

Tuition for the GSWB Preschool program is \$1,845, which is broken into 9 monthly payments of \$205. Tuition will not be waived, regardless of qualification for the National School Lunch Program.

8. How will I make monthly payments?

Families will submit ACH information and will be automatically charged on the first of the month, or next business day, for the following month's tuition. Due to high fees, we are no longer able to offer a credit card payment option.

Month of School	Payment Charge Date:
August/September	August 3, 2026
October	September 1, 2026
November	October 1, 2026
December	November 2, 2026
January	December 1, 2026
February	January 1, 2027
March	February 1, 2027
April	March 1, 2027
May	April 1, 2027

9. What happens if there are insufficient funds available for the ACH?

Families will have until the 1st of the next month to complete their payment, along with the service fee of \$5.00 that is charged from the bank. If the missed payment is not made by the next payment due date, the student will be withdrawn from the program and the space will be offered to the next student on the waitlist.

Schedule**10. What attendance schedule will the tuition preschool follow?**

The preschool program will follow Gardner Grade School 72c attendance calendar. For early release days, the schedule may be adjusted and families will be notified prior.

Waiting List**11. How will I know if I am on the waiting list?**

Families will be contacted as applications are received. Any family on the waiting list will be notified of their status upon completion of the application.

12. How will the wait list work?

The first students to apply will fill the slots available in the program. If a spot in the program becomes available, the next student on the wait list will be offered the slot.

Program Requirements**13. Who is eligible for the tuition preschool program?**

Students who reside in Gardner Grade School, South Wilmington Grade School or Braceville Elementary School boundaries and are 3 years old on or before September 1st are eligible to apply for the tuition preschool program.

14. Must students be potty trained to attend the tuition preschool program?

No, students are not required to be potty trained to participate in the tuition preschool program. Staff will be available to support toileting needs. Parents will be responsible for supplying diapers/pull-ups, wipes and a change of clothes.

Other

15. Is transportation offered for students in the tuition preschool program?

Families will be required to provide transportation for their student(s) in the tuition preschool program. Transportation will not be provided by the school.

16. What orientation will be available for parents and students?

Each teacher will provide an open house / orientation program for their families. Information about this will be provided prior to the start of the school year.

17. What if I change my mind about tuition preschool?

We strongly prefer that students who begin the preschool program stay in the program for the full year. However, parents may at any time withdraw their child from the program. Families will not be refunded tuition fees paid for any months that the student attended one or more days.

18. What if my student is evaluated and qualifies for special education service?

If a student begins in the tuition program and then qualifies for special education services, they may be able to continue with their current teacher, if space is available. Charges for tuition will discontinue and they will receive a prorated refund for the month in which they were found eligible for special education services.

19. Who should I contact for additional questions?

Erica Schramm - GCSEC Program Coordinator

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