

Anticipated
2026-2027

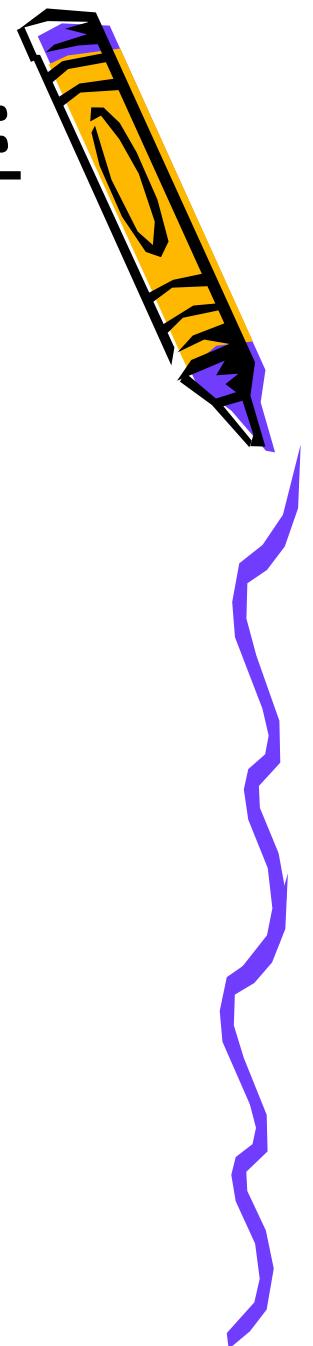
Universal Prekindergarten
(UPK)
Program



New York State & Federal
UPK GRANT FUNDS

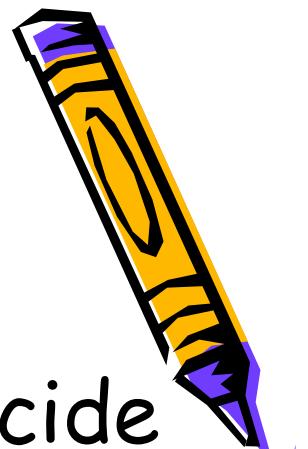
A Few Quick Housekeeping Items:

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Location of Bathrooms



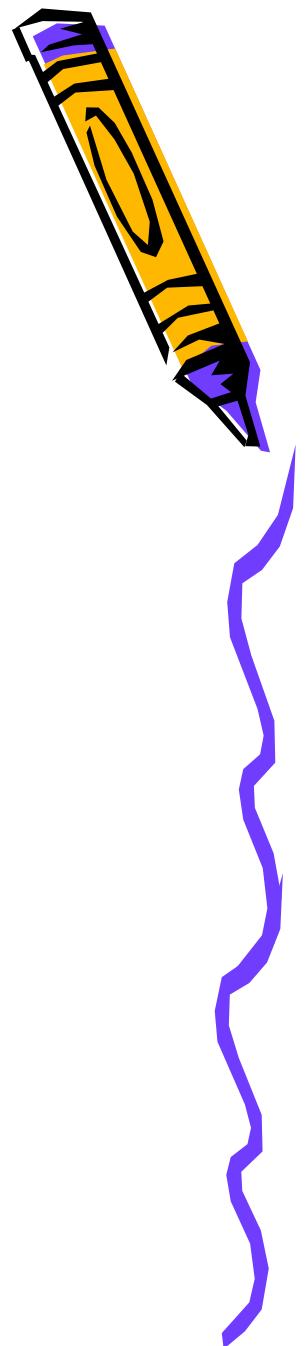
3 Reasons Why the UPK Program is Anticipated

1. VC Board of Education must decide to move forward with the UPK Program for 2026-2027 (May)
2. UPK Grant Applications sent to NYS (June/July)
3. Grant Approval Notification Received (August)



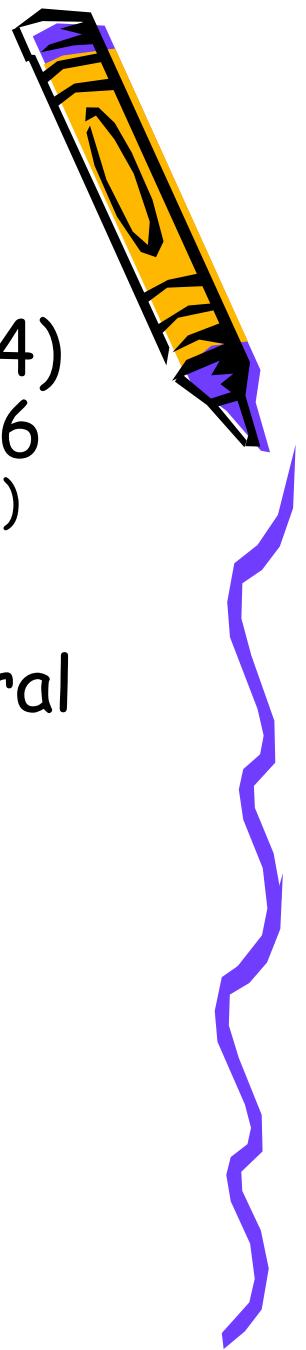
New York State UPK Allotment

- Valley Central School District should receive current 2025-2026 grant funding amounts for the 2026-2027 school year
- We anticipate having the following
 - 26 students for half-day UPK
 - 130 students for full-day UPK
 - 40 students for expanded-day UPK
 - For a total of 196 students



Student Eligibility for UPK

1. Age requirement: child must turn four (4) years old on or before December 1, 2026 (children who turn 5 are not eligible per NYS regulations)
2. Child must reside within the Valley Central School District
3. Completion of an application form and submission of all required documents



Random Lottery Selection Process

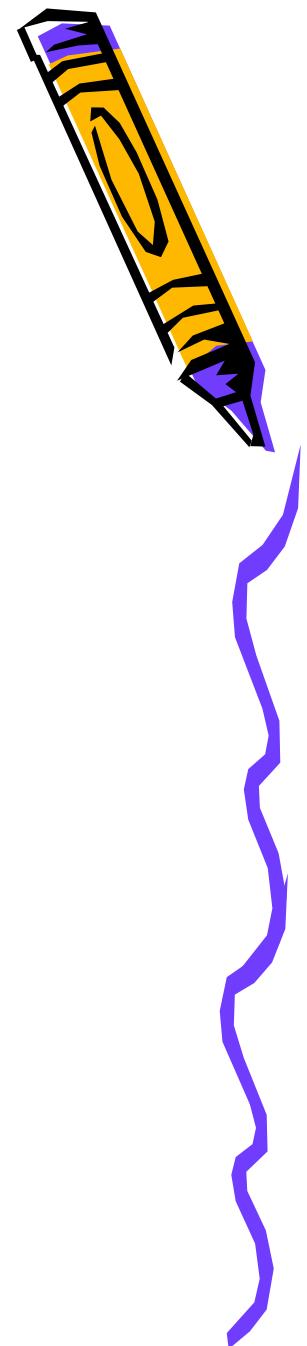
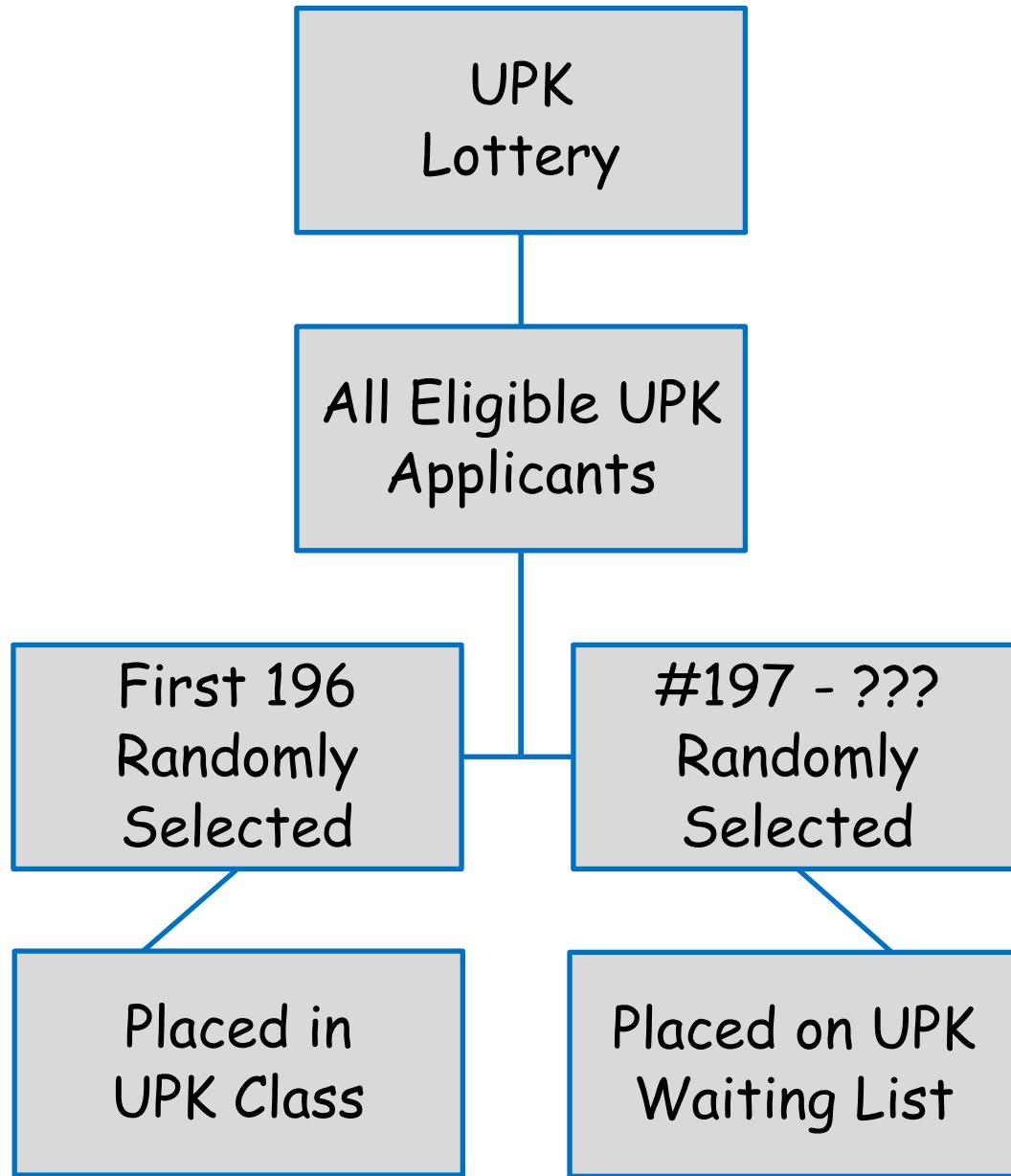
A single lottery will be held. We no longer hold separate lotteries for each of the three different UPK Programs (Half-Day, Full-Day & Expanded-Day)

1. Random lottery selection process
2. Each eligible application will be drawn and if needed a waiting list will be created
3. Selection is performed by the Board of Education or its designee



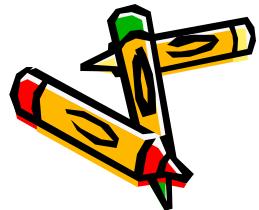
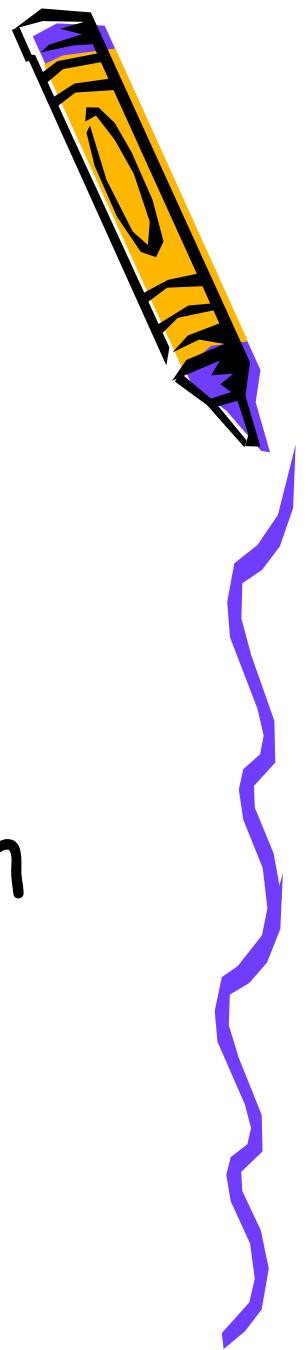
*We anticipate doing the lottery on/about 3/20/26

UPK Lottery Flow Chart



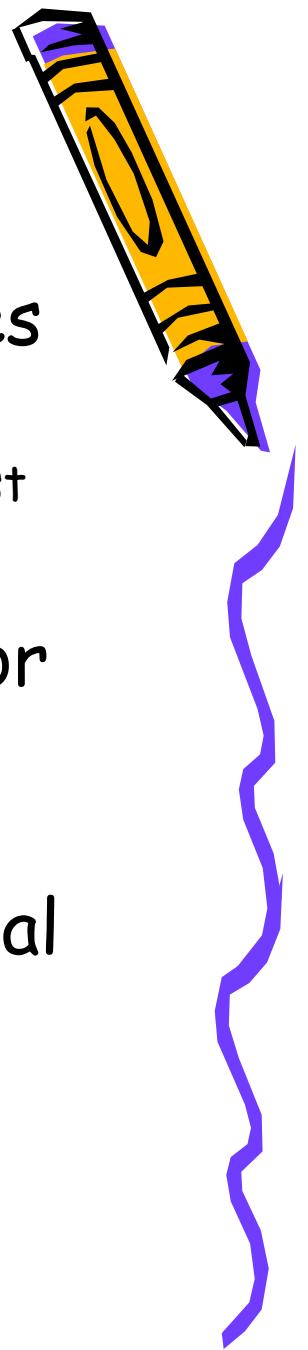
Email Notification of Lottery Selection

ALL eligible applicants will receive an **EMAIL** indicating whether their child was selected OR if their child is on the waiting list.



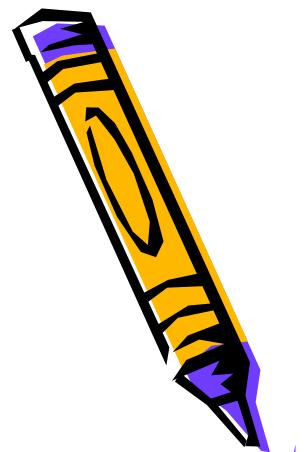
Placement at UPK Provider

- Placement into a UPK class will be made towards the end of the school year; families will be notified on/about 7/17/26
- Placement is generally made according to 1st choice, 2nd choice, etc., **unless** the student has certain medical and/or physical needs or receives services (Speech, OT or PT) that can only be met at a specific UPK Provider
- If your child has any medical and/or physical needs please be sure to call and speak with the UPK Nurse



Placement at UPK Provider (cont'd.)

- If your child develops any medical and/or physical needs or begins receiving services, after placement in a UPK class, we retain the right to switch your child's placement to the UPK class/UPK Provider where those needs can best be met regardless of the time of year



Registration is Required

- All students selected for UPK will be automatically registered with the Valley Central School District; the Registrar will use your application and submitted documents to register your child; you do not need to meet with the Registrar



Health Screening

- Required hearing and vision screening will take place in April with the UPK Nurse



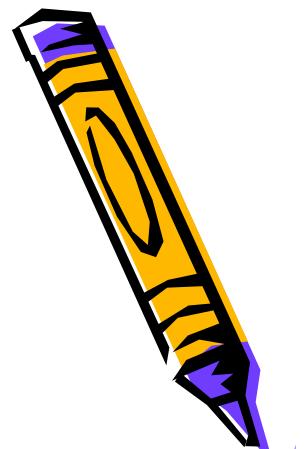
New Entrant Screening

- Commissioner's Regulations Part 117:
 - Every new entrant to the schools must be screened to determine which students are possibly gifted, have or are suspected of having a possible disability and/or possibly are limited English proficient



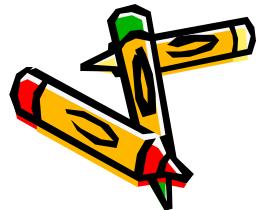
New Entrant Screening (cont'd.)

- Required New Entrant screening to take place June-September 2026; each UPK Provider will screen the students placed at their school.
- New Entrant screening results may indicate further evaluation is recommended; further evaluation allows potential issues to be identified so that proper supports and services can be put into place in order to ensure your child's success in school.



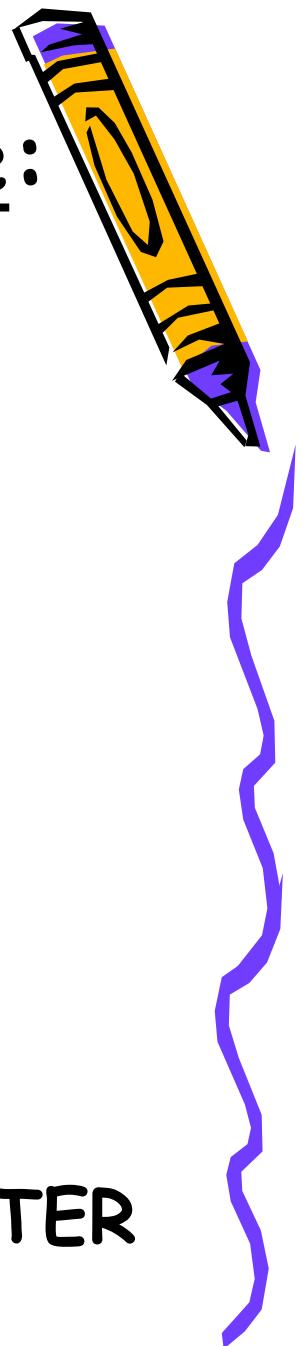
Local UPK Providers

Must meet all NYS UPK requirements and Commissioner of Education regulations to provide UPK services for Valley Central students



The 2026-2027 UPK Providers are:

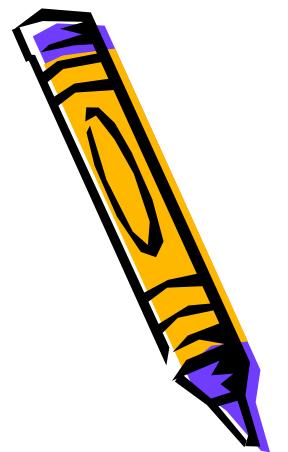
- LEARNING TOGETHER (full-day)
- MISS CINDY'S NEIGHBORHOOD NURSERY SCHOOL (half-day)
- MONTGOMERY NURSERY SCHOOL (half-day & full-day)
- MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD SCHOOL (full-day & expanded-day)
- SCHOOL TIME CHILDREN'S CENTER (full-day & expanded-day)



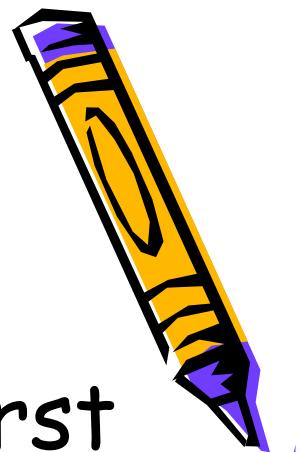
UPK Parents & Guardians

What is expected?

- Transport your child to and from the UPK Provider five days a week, busing is not provided (Drop off and pick up your child at the appointed starting and ending times for your child's class. If you regularly do not get your child to school on time or pick them up before class ends, it may jeopardize your child's continued enrollment in UPK.)
- We highly recommend your child is potty trained before September
(see pg. 6/6 of FAQ document: *3 Day Potty Training*)
- Feed your child a nutritious breakfast before school each morning
 - Send your child to school with a nutritious lunch each day (full & expanded-day only)



Let's Take a Look at the Application...



- There is no award for being the first to hand in your application - it does not improve your chances of being selected
 - It is more important that you wait to hand in your application until you have ALL your required documents than to hand in an application that is not complete



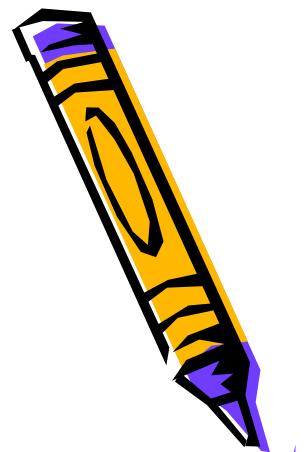
Use the **CHECKLIST** provided in the application packet to ensure all parts of the application are completely and accurately filled out AND that ALL required documents are submitted WITH your application.



UPK Provider

Open House Schedule

Please refer to the Open House schedule in your application packet for the dates, times and addresses of each UPK Provider.

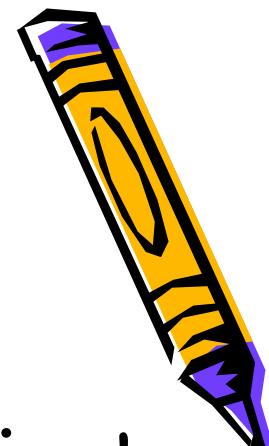


Let's Take A Closer Look...

- Prekindergarten Information Form
- Provider Selection Sheet
- Health Inventory Form (for parent)
- NYS School Health Examination Form (for Dr.)
- Confidential Medical Emergency Form
(for parent)
- Lead, Dental, Home Language, Speech,
Computer
 - Housing Questionnaire
 - How Did You Hear About UPK



Documents You Must Submit with Your Application:



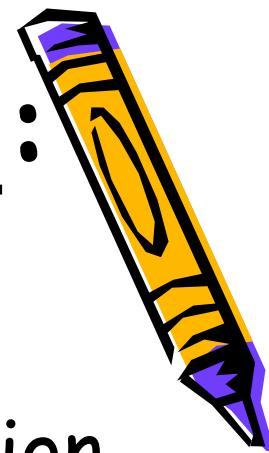
- **Photocopy** of your child's birth certificate (DOB must be between 12/02/2021 - 12/01/2022)
- Up to date immunization record (signed/stamped)
- Physical (hand in current physical, then provide updated when complete)
- Residency documentation (see residency forms/documents page - then choose option that applies to you)
- Custody papers (if applicable)



Handing in Your Application:

- **MAIL TO:** Stephanie Brady/UPK
Central Office Administration
944 State Route 17K
Montgomery, NY 12549
- **DROP OFF:** Central Office Administration
9:00 AM-3:00 PM (behind Berea)

Application Deadline
February 13, 2026



Please Note:

- UPK staff are unable to answer questions or personally accept your application if you choose to drop it off
- If you have any questions about the application or required documents, please call or email the UPK Office **BEFORE** mailing or dropping off your application (also see the FAQ document, e.g. twins/triplets, before/after care, etc.)
- The UPK Office cannot make photocopies for you; you must provide your own copies

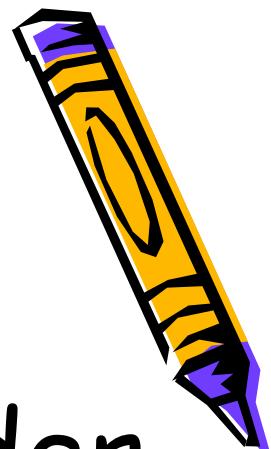


» We do not accept applications via email

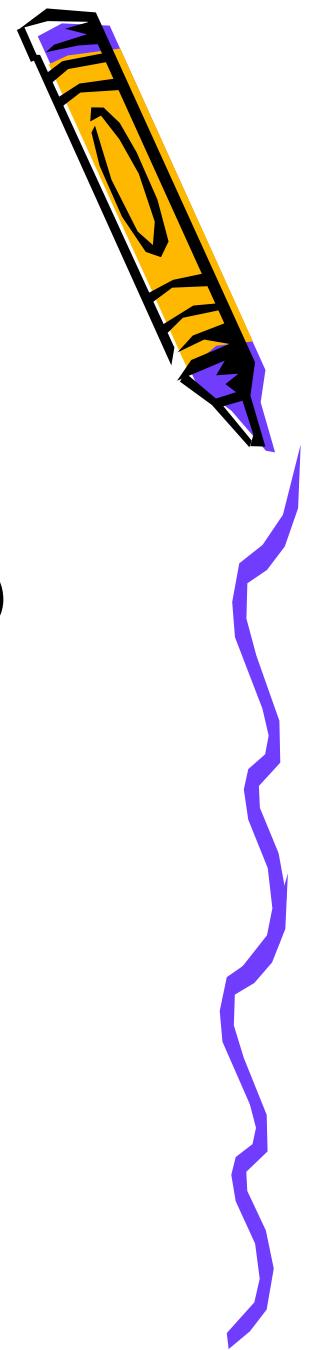
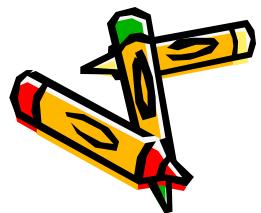


Don't Forget:

Please visit each UPK provider's Open House in order to determine which UPK Provider you will list as your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th (or more) choices on the Provider Selection Sheet



QUESTIONS?



Thank You
for attending!

We're glad you came!

