

C4 AI REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE AND THE QUALITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER EXPANDING THE CITY'S PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO INCLUDE OPTIONS FOR THREE-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS

Applicable Area:



**COMMISSION MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez

DATE: February 26, 2025

TITLE: REFERRAL TO THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE AND THE QUALITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER EXPANDING THE CITY'S PREKINDERGARTEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO INCLUDE OPTIONS FOR THREE-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

**ANALYSIS**

Please place on the February 26, 2025 agenda a dual referral to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee (FERC) and the Quality Education Committee (QEC) to consider expanding the City's Prekindergarten Scholarship Program to include options for three-year-old students.

Currently, the City's Miami Beach PreK Scholarship Program is designed to expand access to PreK for four-year-old children by providing a full day of school at no cost to families. This program complements existing state funding, where the state covers the first three hours of instruction, and the City funds the last 2.5 hours, ensuring a full day of PreK education for eligible children.

I would like for the Committees to consider expanding the Program to include three-year-old students. This would be a different funding challenge, as the state of Florida does not currently offer a universal program for all three-year-olds. This expansion would require the City to explore potential funding mechanisms, as well as possible collaboration with the state and local stakeholders to make such an initiative feasible.

I would like the Finance and Economic Resilience Committee to discuss the potential fiscal impact, funding options, and other necessary steps for expanding the City's PreK Scholarship Program to include three-year-old students, and to make recommendations on how to move this initiative forward.

In support of this expansion, I am also sponsoring a Resolution to include in the City's State 2025 Legislative priorities a request urging the state to provide funding for a full day of Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) for four-year-olds, as well as to consider funding for three-year-old

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?**  
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

If applicable, the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on:  
See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notice/>

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**CONCLUSION**

**Applicable Area**

Citywide

**Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item,  
pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?**

No

**Is this item related to a G.O. Bond  
Project?**

No

**Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481,  
includes a principal engaged in lobbying?**

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

**Department**

Office of Commissioner Laura Dominguez

**Sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

**Co-sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Alex Fernandez  
Commissioner Joseph Magazine

**Condensed Title**

Ref: FERC/QEC - Expand Pre-K Scholarship Program, Include Options for 3-Year-Old Students. (Dominguez/Fernandez/Magazine)

**Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)**