
2i. PK4 Tuition Policy

Process

The PK 4 Tuition Policy outlines the various requirements for charter schools in Orleans Parish offering PK4 Tuition seats in combination with LA 4 seats. These requirements align with state LA 4 requirements, the NOEEN Coordinated Enrollment Framework, and OPSB Policy H, *Charter Schools*.

Requirements for LA 4-PK4 Tuition Combination Programs

PK4 tuition programs at schools where there are one or more four-year-olds being served through LA 4.

Request to Offer LA 4-PK4 Tuition Combination Programs

- The only charter schools that shall be permitted to provide LA 4-K4 Tuition Combination Programs are those charter schools that indicated a plan to provide tuition PK4 seats in writing through NOEEN's Coordinated Funding Request.
- All charter schools shall charge no more than \$4,580 total for the school year for PK4 Tuition unless the charter school makes a formal request to charge a higher amount as provided for below:
 - Requests must be included in the Coordinated Funding Request and must include the proposed tuition amount(s) and written justification or documentation demonstrating that the tuition amount for any child does not exceed the average per child amount the school spends for LA 4 eligible children in the class, excluding the costs for classroom space and utilities.

Tuition amount

- Tuition may be charged for any child who does not meet eligibility requirements (185% or less of the Federal Poverty Level) or has an IEP (funded through MFP).
- Per LDE guidelines, the tuition amount for any child cannot exceed the average per child amount the school spends for LA 4 eligible children in the class. When determining the average per child cost, costs for classroom space and utilities are to be excluded.
- EnrollNOLA may require reporting and documentation, as necessary, throughout the year to verify the amount of tuition being charged, payments received, etc.

Enrollment

- LA 4 and PK4 Tuition children must be enrolled through EnrollNOLA according to the NOEEN Coordinated Enrollment Framework.

Classroom

- PK4 Tuition children and LA 4 children must be served together, and not separated into distinct groups or classrooms.
- All LA 4 requirements apply to the entire classroom and cover both LA 4 children and PK4 tuition children. 2016-2017 Reporting and Reimbursement Requirements for LA4 can be found [here](#) and program assurances for pre-K programs can be found [here](#).

Rationale

LA 4-PK4 Tuition Combination Programs can serve to improve quality preschool education systemwide in Orleans Parish by increasing socioeconomic diversity in public school pre-kindergarten programs, and allowing for the distribution of limited LA4 seats among more public schools, which can provide more free or affordable preschool program options for more families. However, NOEEN's first obligation is to families of public funding-eligible children, and to increasing the seats available to these children.

Therefore, the following requirements apply to any NOEEN LA 4-PK4 Tuition Combination Program in an effort to ensure that all eligible families have access to a free PK4 seat in Orleans Parish.