# Kindergarten Registration - Children who are 5 years old by September 30 can start kindergarten this fall. But first, they need to be registered. It's very important to register on time – on April 20.

## What schools have registration on April 20?
15 localities in the Richmond Region agreed on one common day for kindergarten registration and that day is Thursday April 20:
- Cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, Richmond
- Counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George and Sussex

## Why do we have one day for registration?
The common day allows for a regional promotional campaign to reach more parents, caregivers and families about the important date. Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond estimates that 4,000 of the 12,000 incoming kindergartners were not registered in April last year. Some even registered after school had already started.

## Where is registration?
Registration is at the local elementary that your child will attend. To find out what attendance zone you are in, you can call “211” or visit [www.smartbeginningsrva.org](http://www.smartbeginningsrva.org) to see links to all the school districts in the area and the times for registration.

## What do I need to bring?
1. Child’s official, certified birth certificate
2. Two proofs of address
3. School Entrance Health Form
4. Photo ID for parent or legal guardian

## What if I am missing a form?
Still come to registration even if you are missing a form. The school will guide you to resources that can help you. Keep in mind that schools don’t know the identity of the children until you register them.

## What if my child is in Head Start or VPI?
Even if your child attends public preschool, you still need to register for kindergarten.

## What can I do to help my child prepare for kindergarten?
Get your child ready for school. Help them:
- Read and look at books every day
- Stick to a routine – a regular bedtime and wakeup time
- Practice counting real objects – like cereal or crayons
- Talk about their feelings and what kindergarten will be like
- Meet and play with other children their age
- Show respect and use good manners
- Find and name letters of the alphabet everywhere you go
- Visit and explore libraries, parks and museums
- Use scissors to practice cutting and crayons to draw

## Why is it important to register ON TIME?
- Parents can get important information that they might otherwise miss
- Schools can adequately prepare for space, staff and materials
- Teachers can prepare for your child in the classroom

## Where can I get more details?
- [www.smartbeginningsrva.org](http://www.smartbeginningsrva.org)
- Dial “211”

### RECAP:
Children who are 5 years old by September 30 can start kindergarten this fall. But first, they need to be registered. It's very important to register on time on Thursday April 20. When you register on time at your child’s school, you will receive important information. For specific details about registration times or what to bring, go to [www.smartbeginningsrva.org](http://www.smartbeginningsrva.org) or dial “211”. Remember, get ready for kindergarten now and register on time, April 20.

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