

Smart Start Program
Amherst County Public Schools
P.O. Box 1257, Amherst, VA 24521

- I. **Who is Eligible?**
 - A. Children who are 4 years old by September 30th and live in Amherst County
 - B. Children who may need extra support before entering kindergarten
 - C. Consideration for non-resident students based on available slots

- II. **What Does the Program Cost?**
 - A. Free- No cost to parents

- III. **Process for Enrollment**
 - A. Complete application
 - B. Provide the following:
 1. Household income in the form of: tax form, pay stub, verification of SNAP (food stamps), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), and/ or SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
 2. Child's age (birth certificate-upon acceptance into the program)
 3. Physical examination (upon acceptance into the program)
 4. Up-to-date immunization record (upon acceptance into the program)
 5. Annual Registration/Emergency Form (upon acceptance into the program)
 6. Completed Free & Reduced Price Meals Application (upon acceptance into the program)

- IV. **How Will the Program Benefit the Children?**
 - A. Children will work on the following skills:
 1. Social Skills
 2. Self-help skills
 3. Language development skills
 4. Pre-reading, writing skills, and mathematics
 5. Physical skills
 - B. May include medical and dental screenings
 - C. Speech and language skills
 - D. Breakfast, lunch, and snack
 - E. Transportation provided

- V. **How Will the Program Benefit the Parents & How Can Parents Be Involved?**
 - A. Enrollment of the child in a full day quality preschool program
 - B. Participation in a Family Involvement Plan which may include:
 1. Parent Conferences
 2. Participation in classroom activities, field trips
 3. Parent Workshop/s
 4. Access to resources and materials to support your child's development

5. Information/assistance to parents (community resources, opportunities to enroll in adult education programs, etc.)
6. Home visits

VI. Reasons for Termination from the Program

- A. Consecutive unexcused absences
- B. Continuous poor attendance
- C. Request from parents to withdraw child from program
- D. Family moves out of Amherst County