

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION BEGINS JUNE 29**

MIAMI— Parents who want to take advantage of the state's new, free Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program can enroll their children beginning on Wed., June 29, 2005.

Miami-Dade County Public schools won state approval to hold lotteries to assign pre-kindergarten students. As a result, schools will enroll students from June 29 through Thurs., July 7, 2005.

On Wed., July 13, 2005, each school will hold its pre-K lottery publicly at 9 a.m. in the school media center. Parents will be notified of the results beginning on July 15, 2005.

Enrollment is the second stage in the two-part registration process for pre-K established by the state. Parents must first demonstrate their children's eligibility by showing a birth certificate and some proof of residency such as a utility bill, a lease, a bank statement or a pay stub that shows a home address.

M-DCPS will continue to accept eligibility applications at 30 schools across the county through the July 7 end of enrollment.

Based on classroom space and the availability of certified teachers, M-DCPS will be able to serve about 6,000 regular education pre-K students. To help parents ensure their children can enroll in a pre-K class, M-DCPS will provide parents with a list of private pre-K providers in the area when they sign up for enrollment lotteries.

For more information, contact the Division of Early Childhood Programs at 305-995-7632.

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