

Administrative Procedures Appendix #6b Additional Risk Factor Guidance

Family income that is 300 percent below the federal poverty guideline is the primary risk factor for participation in PA Pre-K Counts. Additional risk factors that are identified must be reported in the Early Learning Network. These risk factors can be determined by careful interviewing. Ask specific questions and follow up with requests for additional documentation as needed.

Additional Risk Factors include:

- **Child receiving behavioral supports:**

A child who is referred to PA Pre-K Counts from an appropriately-credentialed health or mental health provider who is not employed by the PA Pre-K Counts program; a child who is receiving mental health treatment. Additional verification beyond the interview is required.

- **Child or family who receives Protective Services:**

A child who is a foster child, a kinship care child, or receiving Children and Youth services

- **Education Level of Guardian:**

Does not have a high school diploma or GED or post-secondary degree.

- **English Language Learner:**

A child whose first language is not English and who is in the process of learning English is considered an English Language Learner. Ask these two questions, as established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, to determine if a child qualifies as an English Language Learner.

- o What is/was the child's first language?

- o Does the child speak a language other than English? (do not include languages learned in school)

- **Homeless**

A child who lacks a fixed, adequate and regular place of nighttime residence due to one of the following:

- o Children who are sharing the household of other persons due to the loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason and are residing in motels, hotels or camping grounds due to the lack of alternate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement

- o Children who have a primary nighttime residence that is public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings

- o Children who are living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

- **Incarcerated Parent:**

A child for whom one of the child's parents is currently incarcerated.

- **Preschooler with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP):**

A child who is currently enrolled in the Early Intervention program with an active IEP. Verification includes a copy of the IEP or other source of documentation from the parent or the Early Intervention agency.

- **Migrant (non immigrant) Seasonal Student:**

A migrant child has moved from one school district to another in order to accompany or join a migrant parent or guardian who is a migratory worker or fisher within the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain temporary or seasonal employment in qualifying agricultural or fishing work, including agri-related businesses such as meat or vegetable processing, or working in nurseries such as Christmas and evergreen tree farming.

- **Teen mother:**

A child whose mother was under the age of 18 when the child was born.