

Smart Start Program

Amherst County Public Schools
P.O. Box 1257, Amherst, Virginia 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

- 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 (tax form, pay stub)
 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. Medical and dental screenings
 - C. Speech and Language skills
 - D. Breakfast, lunch, and snack
 - E. Transportation (provided on a limited basis)

- V. **How Will the Program Benefit the Parents? How Can Parents Be Involved?**
 - A. Enrollment of the child in a full day literacy program
 - B. Involvement in their child's learning
 - C. Participation in a Family Involvement Plan which may include:
 1. Parent conferences
 2. Participation in classroom activities, field trips
 3. Home visits
 4. Opportunity to enroll in Adult Education Programs
 5. Parent Workshop(s)

- VI. **Reasons for Termination**
 - A. Consecutive unexcused absences
 - B. Continuous poor attendance
 - C. Request from parents to withdraw child from program
 - D. Family moves out of Amherst County
 - E. Failure of parent to participate in Family Involvement Plan