



## Inside General Education 3s (IGE 3s) Fact Sheet

### ***What is the IGE 3s program?***

Baltimore County Public Schools' (BCPS) **IGE 3s** programs provide learning experiences that address the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical needs of young children. Each program is designed to include preschool children of all developmental levels. The classes include children receiving special education services and children who are not receiving special education services. All sessions are half-day and follow the BCPS school year calendar.

### ***How old must a child be to attend the IGE 3s program?***

A child must be three years old on September 1 of the school year in which the child applies for entrance. For the **2020-2021** school year, a child's birth date must fall between September 2, 2016, and September 1, 2017, unless your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) necessitating special education classroom instruction within a general education setting.

### ***Who is eligible for the IGE 3s program?***

The **IGE 3s** program is offered in a limited number of BCPS' schools and supports children living within the boundaries of each school offering the program. Eligibility for an **IGE 3s** program will occur **when a child meets the age of entry guidelines and is at least** one of the following:

- From an economically disadvantaged background, (i.e., eligible for free or reduced-price meal program as established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture).
- Has been identified through the IEP team process with the development of an IEP necessitating special education classroom instruction within a general education setting and been placed in the program by the BCPS' Office of Special Education.

Enrollment is offered to eligible children who are not receiving special education services on a first-come, first-served basis. Children who are not offered enrollment may be placed on a waiting list.

### ***When do schools screen for the IGE 3s program?***

Each school selects a date in the spring of each school year to conduct a screening for the program.

### ***What is the staffing in an IGE 3s program?***

Each session is staffed by a certified classroom teacher, an instructional assistant and an additional adult.

### ***Is transportation provided for children enrolled in the IGE 3s program?***

Transportation is provided **mid-day only**, unless a child has an IEP that includes transportation as a related service. If a child does not have an IEP, the parent or guardian must provide transportation to school for the morning session **or** home from school for the afternoon session.

### ***Where can I get more information about preschool programs?***

Additional information can be obtained from your local elementary school, from the BCPS' Web site at [the Office of Early Childhood page](#) or from BCPS' Office of Early Childhood Programs 443-809-4313, or the BCPS Office of Special Education, Birth to Five Services team at 443-809-3660.