

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, early childhood education is critical to the future success of South Carolina's children and the state as a whole; and

WHEREAS, high-quality pre-kindergarten programs provide children with a strong foundation for learning and development, setting them on a path toward academic and life success; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina supports efforts to ensure that families have choices for and access to reliable, safe, high-quality early care and education for their children that meets their family's needs in all areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, Palmetto Pre-K is an initiative of the South Carolina Early Childhood Advisory Council, which is committed to maximizing parent choice and improving access to high-quality pre-kindergarten programs by aligning public investments, increasing parent knowledge, and promoting excellence in programming through professional development; and

WHEREAS, the Palmetto Pre-K portal, available at palmettoprek.org, is a one-stop shop for finding free educational preschool programs in South Carolina, including First Steps 4K, Head Start, public school 4K, and the SC Child Care Scholarship program; and

WHEREAS, Palmetto Pre-K Enrollment Day is an opportunity for families to check their eligibility for free or reduced cost preschool, find programs that meet their families' needs, and apply.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 4, 2024, as

PALMETTO PRE-K ENROLLMENT DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of pre-k programs and families with young children to explore the pre-kindergarten programs available in their communities and to take advantage of the information and resources provided by Palmetto Pre-K.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA