

Policy 5148.3: Preschool/Early Childhood Education

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/01/23/20132012 | **Last Revised Date:** 03/06/201912/01/2023 |
Last Reviewed Date: 03/06/20191/24/2024

The Governing Board recognizes the value of high-quality preschool experiences to enhance children's social-emotional development, and acquisition of instructional knowledge, skills, and abilities, and attributes necessary for a successful transition into the elementary education program. The Board desires to provide children ages 3-4 years access to developmentally appropriate activities in a safe, adequately a supervised, and cognitively rich learning environment, designed to facilitate the transition to kindergarten for three- and four-year-old children.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall collaborate with the local child care and development planning council, the county office of education, other public agencies, organizations, and/or private preschool providers to assess the availability of preschool programs in the community and the extent to which the community's preschool needs are being met. The Board encourages the development of a comprehensive districtwide and/or countywide plan to increase children's access to high-quality preschool programs.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall provide information about preschool options in the community to parents/guardians upon request.

District Preschool Programs

To receive preschool services, a child and the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be required to provide evidence of residency in California. However, any person identified as experiencing homelessness shall only be required to submit a declaration that the person resides in California. (5 CCR 17745)

Preschool eligibility determinations shall be made without regard to a child's immigration status or that of the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) unless the child or the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) are under a final order of deportation from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (5 CCR 17745)

District Preschool Programs

When the Board determines that it is feasible, the district may contract with the California Department of Education (CDE) to provide preschool services in facilities at or near district schools, either directly or through a subcontract with a public or private provider.

District preschool programs shall comply with all health and safety laws and regulations, including, when applicable, licensure requirements pursuant to 22 CCR 101156.

The Board shall approve, for the district's preschool program, a written philosophical statement,

goals, and objectives that reflect the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the families to be served and address the program components specified in 5 CCR ~~18272-18281~~17701-17711 and the accompanying administrative regulation. (5 CCR ~~18274~~17701)

The Board shall set priorities for establishing or expanding services as resources become available, giving consideration to the benefits of providing early education programs for at-risk children and/or children residing in the attendance areas of the lowest performing district schools.

Preschool classroom needs shall be addressed in the district's facilities master plan, including an assessment as to whether adequate and appropriate space exists on school sites. As necessary, the Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall provide information to the Board regarding facilities financing options for preschool classrooms and/or facilities available through partnering organizations or agencies.

Because parents/guardians are essential partners in supporting the development of their children, the Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall involve them in program planning.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall coordinate the district's preschool program, transitional kindergarten program (TK), and elementary education program to provide a developmental continuum that builds upon children's growing skills and knowledge. In order to provide families with the option of a full-day, high-quality instructional program, the district may enroll children who are in a TK or kindergarten program in a California State Preschool Program (CSPP) before and/or after the regular school day.

If an early enrollment child is enrolled in the district's TK program, the district shall concurrently offer the child enrollment in the district's CSPP program, subject to available space. (Education Code 48000.15)

A child's eligibility for TK enrollment shall not impact family eligibility for a preschool or child care program. (Education Code 8205, 48000)

The district's program shall be aligned with preschool learning foundations and curriculum frameworks developed by CDE which identify the knowledge, skills, and competencies that children typically attain as they complete their first or second year of preschool. The program shall be designed to facilitate children's development in essential skills in the areas of language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social-emotional development.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall identify dual language learners in district preschool programs, and shall collect and report related data to CDE as required by Education Code 8241.5. The district's preschool program shall include activities and services that meet the needs of dual language learners for support in the development of their home language and English. (Education Code 8203)

The district's preschool program shall serve children with exceptional needs as required by

Education Code 8208. Children with exceptional needs attending any CSPP program shall be educated in the least restrictive environment in accordance with 20 USC 1412.

The district's preschool program shall provide appropriate services to support the needs of at-risk children.

To maximize the ability of children to succeed in the preschool program, the program shall support children's health through proper nutrition and physical activity and shall provide or make referrals to available health and social services as needed.

The district shall encourage volunteerism by families participating in the program and shall communicate frequently with parents/guardians of enrolled children regarding their child's progress.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall ensure that administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in district preschool programs possess the appropriate permit(s) issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, meet any additional qualifications established by the Board, and participate in professional development opportunities designed to continually enhance their knowledge and skills.

Preschool admissions policies and procedures shall be in writing and available to the public. -Such policies and procedures shall include criteria designating those children whose needs can be met by the program and services, the ages of children who will be accepted, program activities, any supplementary services provided, any field trip provisions, any transportation arrangements, food service provisions, and a health examination requirement. (5 CCR ~~18105~~17743; 22 CCR 101218),1)

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall ensure that subsidized preschool is provided to eligible families to the extent that state and/or federal funding is available and shall establish enrollment priorities in accordance with Education Code ~~8263~~8208, 8210, and 8211 and 5 CCR ~~18106~~17746-17748.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall recommend strategies to link the district's preschool program with other available child care and development programs in the district or community in order to assist families whose child care needs extend beyond the length of time that the district's ~~part-day~~ preschool program is offered.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall ensure that the plan to provide access to full-day learning programs the year before kindergarten addresses the needs of preschool children and their families as specified in Board Policy 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten. (Education Code 8281.5)

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall develop and implement an annual plan of evaluation which conforms to state requirements. (5 CCR ~~18279~~17709-17711)

The district's ~~Williams~~ uniform complaint procedures, with modifications as necessary, shall be used

to investigate and resolve complaints alleging violation of applicable health or safety requirements for license-exempt programs operating under the ~~California State Preschool Program.CSPP.~~ However, licensed programs shall refer complaints alleging health and safety violations to the California Department of Social Services. (Education Code ~~8235.58212~~; 5 CCR 4610, 4611, 4690-4694, 17781)

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding enrollment in district preschool programs and the effectiveness of the programs in preparing preschoolers for transition into the elementary education program.

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
22 CCR 101151-101191	Licensing and application procedures
22 CCR 101151-101239.2	General requirements; licensed child care centers
22 CCR 101212-101231	Continuing requirements
22 CCR 101237-101239.2	Facilities and equipment
5 CCR 14001-14036	School housing
5 CCR 17700-17833	California State Preschool Program
5 CCR 17701-17711	General Program Requirements
5 CCR 17746-17748	Enrollment priorities
5 CCR 18295	Waiver of qualifications for site supervisor
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
5 CCR 4690-4694	Complaints regarding health and safety issues in license-exempt preschool programs
5 CCR 80067	Professional Clear Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction Credential
5 CCR 80105-80125	Commission on Teacher Credentialing; child care and development permits
Ed. Code 17375	California Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program
Ed. Code 44065	Issuance of and functions requiring credentials
Ed. Code 44256	Authorization for teaching credentials
Ed. Code 48000-48003	Kindergartens
Ed. Code 48985	Notices to parents in language other than English
Ed. Code 60910	Data for students enrolled in California State Preschool Program

Ed. Code 69617	Golden State Teacher Grant Program
Ed. Code 8200-8340	California State Preschool Program
Ed. Code 8489-8489.1	Expulsion and suspension procedures
H&S Code 120325-120380	Immunization against communicable diseases
H&S Code 1596.70-1596.895	California Child Day Care Act
H&S Code 1596.90-1597.21	Day care centers
W&I Code 10207-10215	General provisions
W&I Code 10207-10492.2	Child Care and Development Services Act
W&I Code 10217-10224.5	Resource and referral programs
W&I Code 10225-10234	Alternative payment programs
W&I Code 10235-10238	Migrant child care and development programs
W&I Code 10240-10243	General child care and development programs
W&I Code 10250-10252	Family child care home education networks
W&I Code 10260-10263	Child care and development services for children with special needs
W&I Code 10480-10487	Local planning councils
Federal	Description
20 USC 1400-1482	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
20 USC 6311-6322	Title I, relative to preschool
20 USC 6391-6399	Education of migratory children
42 USC 9831-9852c	Head Start programs
42 USC 9857-9858r	Child Care and Development Block Grant
45 CFR 1301.1-1305.2	Head Start
Management Resources	Description
CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing Publication	Proposed Amendments to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Pertaining to the PK-3 Childhood Education Specialist Credential, Coded Correspondence 23-02, February 10, 2023
California Department of Education Publication	California State Preschool Program and Children with Disabilities (Exceptional Needs), Early Education Division Management Bulletin 23-02, February 2023
California Department of Education Publication	Part-day California State Preschool Program as an Extended Learning and Care Option, Early Education Division Management Bulletin 23-05, April 2023
California Department of Education Publication	Assessment and Reporting of Family Fees for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023–24, Early Education Division Management Bulletin 23-07, September 2023

California Department of Education Publication	<u>Suspension and Expulsion in the California State Preschool Program, Early Education Division Management Bulletin 23-08, September 2023</u>
California Department of Education Publication	<u>Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and Learning, 2nd ed., 2009</u>
California Department of Education Publication	<u>California Preschool Learning Foundations</u>
California Department of Education Publication	<u>First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education, 1999</u>
CSBA Publication	<u>The Importance of Early Childhood Education Programs, September 2019</u>
CSBA Publication	The Preschool Landscape in California and Strategies for Expansion, January 2020
U.S. Department of Education Publication	<u>Policy Statement on Expulsion and Suspension Policies in Early Childhood Settings, 2016</u>
Website	<u>California Department of Education, Universal PreKindergarten, California's Great Start</u>
Website	<u>California Office of Administrative Law</u>
Website	<u>California County Superintendents Educational Services Association</u>
Website	<u>CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services</u>
Website	<u>California Commission on Teacher Credentialing</u>
Website	<u>National Institute for Early Education Research</u>
Website	<u>California Head Start Association</u>
Website	<u>California Preschool Instructional Network</u>
Website	<u>Child Development Policy Institute</u>
Website	<u>California Association for the Education of Young Children</u>
Website	<u>First 5 California</u>
Website	<u>California Department of Social Services</u>
Website	<u>Cities Counties and Schools Partnership</u>
Website	<u>CSBA</u>
Website	<u>U.S. Department of Education</u>
Website	<u>California Department of Education</u>

Cross References

Code	Description
<u>0415</u>	<u>Equity</u>
0470	<u>COVID-19 Mitigation Plan</u> COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

0500	<u>Accountability</u> Accountability
1240	<u>Volunteer Assistance</u> Volunteer Assistance
1240	<u>Volunteer Assistance</u> Volunteer Assistance
1312.3	<u>Uniform Complaint Procedures</u> Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	<u>Uniform Complaint Procedures</u> Uniform Complaint Procedures
1330 1312.3	<u>Use Of School Facilities</u> Uniform Complaint Procedures
<u>1312.3</u>	<u>Uniform Complaint Procedures</u>
1330	<u>Use Of School Facilities</u> Use Of School Facilities
1330-E PDF(4)	<u>Use Of School Facilities</u> Use Of School Facilities
1330.1	<u>Joint Use Agreements</u> Joint Use Agreements
1340	<u>Access To District Records</u> Access To District Records
1340	<u>Access To District Records</u> Access To District Records
1400	<u>Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools</u> Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools
1700	<u>Relations Between Private Industry And The Schools</u> Relations Between Private Industry And The Schools
3260	<u>Fees And Charges</u> Fees And Charges
3260	<u>Fees And Charges</u> Fees And Charges
3280	<u>Sale Or Lease Of District-Owned Real Property</u> Sale Or Lease Of District-Owned Real Property
3280	<u>Sale Or Lease Of District-Owned Real Property</u> Sale Or Lease Of District-Owned Real Property
<u>3523</u>	<u>Electronic Signatures</u>
<u>3523</u>	<u>Electronic Signatures</u>
3541	<u>Transportation Routes And Services</u> Transportation Routes And Services
3550	<u>Food Service/Child Nutrition Program</u> Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
3550	<u>Food Service/Child Nutrition Program</u> Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
3580	<u>District Records</u> District Records
3580	<u>District Records</u> District Records
4112	<u>Appointment And Conditions Of Employment</u> Appointment And Conditions Of Employment
4112.2	<u>Certification</u> Certification

4112.2	Certification <u>Certification</u>
4112.4	Health Examinations <u>Health Examinations</u>
4112.5	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
4112.5-E PDF(1)	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
4112.6	Personnel Files <u>Personnel Files</u>
4131	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
4131	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
4212.4	Health Examinations <u>Health Examinations</u>
4212.5	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
4212.5	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
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4222-E PDF(1)	Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals <u>Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals</u>
4231	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
4231	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
4312.4	Health Examinations <u>Health Examinations</u>
4312.5	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
4312.5	Criminal Record Check <u>Criminal Record Check</u>
4312.6	Personnel Files <u>Personnel Files</u>
4331	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
4331	Staff Development <u>Staff Development</u>
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities <u>Parent Rights And Responsibilities</u>
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities <u>Parent Rights And Responsibilities</u>
5030	Student Wellness <u>Student Wellness</u>
5111	Admission <u>Admission</u>
5111	Admission <u>Admission</u>
5125	Student Records <u>Student Records</u>
5125	Student Records <u>Student Records</u>
5141.23	Asthma Management <u>Asthma Management</u>

5141.23	<u>Asthma Management</u> Asthma Management
5141.26	<u>Tuberculosis Testing</u> Tuberculosis Testing
5141.31	<u>Immunizations</u> Immunizations
5141.31	<u>Immunizations</u> Immunizations
5141.32	<u>Health Screening For School Entry</u> Health Screening For School Entry
5141.6	<u>School Health Services</u> School Health Services
5141.6	<u>School Health Services</u> School Health Services
5141.6-E PDF(1)	<u>School Health Services</u>
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u> Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u> Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5145.6	<u>Parent/Guardian Notifications</u> Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E PDF(1)	<u>Parent/Guardian Notifications</u> Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E PDF(2)	<u>Parent/Guardian Notifications</u>
5148	<u>Child Care And Development</u> Child Care And Development
5148	<u>Child Care And Development</u> Child Care And Development
6011	<u>Academic Standards</u> Academic Standards
6020	<u>Parent Involvement</u> Parent Involvement
6020	<u>Parent Involvement</u> Parent Involvement
6159	<u>Individualized Education Program</u> Individualized Education Program
6159	<u>Individualized Education Program</u> Individualized Education Program
6164.4	<u>Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education</u> Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education
6164.4	<u>Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education</u> Identification And Evaluation Of Individuals For Special Education
6170.1	<u>Transitional Kindergarten</u> Transitional Kindergarten
6170.1	<u>Transitional Kindergarten</u>
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6173.1	Education For Foster Youth <u>Education For Foster Youth</u>
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth <u>Education For Foster Youth</u>
6173.2	Education Of Children Of Military Families <u>Education Of Children Of Military Families</u>
6173.2	Education Of Children Of Military Families <u>Education Of Children Of Military Families</u>
6174	Education For English Learners <u>Education For English Learners</u>
6174	Education For English Learners <u>Education For English Learners</u>
<u>6175</u>	<u>Migrant Education Program</u>
<u>6175</u>	<u>Migrant Education Program</u>
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6200	Adult Education <u>Adult Education</u>
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7210	Facilities Financing <u>Facilities Financing</u>