

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

The Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Office of Education recognize that high-quality preschool experiences for children ages 3-4 years help them develop knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to be successful in school and provide for a smooth transition into the elementary education program. Such programs should provide developmentally appropriate activities in a safe, well-supervised, cognitively rich environment.

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*

**Collaboration with Community Programs**

The Yolo County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall collaborate with other agencies, organizations, the county office of education, and 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 County Office encourages the development of a community-wide plan to increase children's access to high-quality preschool programs.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

Information about preschool options in the community shall be provided to parents/guardians upon request.

The County Superintendent or designee shall establish partnerships with feeder preschools to facilitate articulation of the preschool curriculum with the County Office's elementary education program.

**County Office Preschool Programs**

When the County Board determines that it is feasible, the County Office may provide preschool services in facilities at or near district schools.

The County Superintendent or designee shall set priorities for establishing or expanding services as resources become available. In so doing, the County Superintendent shall give 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.

*(cf. 0520.1 - High Priority Schools Grant Program)*

*(cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)*

*(cf. 0520.4 - Quality Education Investment Schools)*

*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*

On a case-by-case basis, the County Superintendent or designee shall determine whether the County Office shall directly administer preschool programs or contract with public or private providers to offer such programs.

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION** (continued)

Facilities for preschool classrooms shall be addressed in the County Office's comprehensive facilities plan, including an assessment as to whether adequate and appropriate space exists on school sites. As necessary, the County Superintendent or designee shall provide information to the County Board regarding facilities financing options for preschool classrooms and/or facilities available through partnering organizations.

*(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)*  
*(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)*

To enable children of working parents/guardians to participate in the County Office's preschool program, the County Superintendent or designee shall recommend strategies to provide a full-day program and/or to link to other full-day child care programs in districts or the community to the extent possible.

*(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)*  
*(cf. 5148.1 - Child Care Services for Parenting Students)*  
*(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)*

Because parents/guardians are essential partners in supporting the development of their children, the County Superintendent or designee shall involve them in program planning. Program staff shall encourage volunteerism in the program and shall communicate frequently with parents/guardians of enrolled children regarding their child's progress.

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*  
*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

The County Office's program shall be aligned with preschool learning foundations published by the California Department of Education which identify the knowledge, skills, and competencies that children typically attain as they complete their first or second year of preschool. Program components shall address social-emotional, physical, and cognitive development in key areas that are necessary for kindergarten readiness.

The County Office's preschool program shall provide appropriate services to support the needs of English learners and children with disabilities.

*(cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)*  
*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)*

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

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)**

*(cf. 3550 - Food Services/Child Nutrition Program)*  
*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*  
*(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)*  
*(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)*

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

*(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)*  
*(cf. 4112.4/4212.4/4312.4 - Health Examinations)*  
*(cf. 4112.5/4312.5 - Criminal Record Check)*  
*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*  
*(cf. 4212.5 - Criminal Record Check)*  
*(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)*  
*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*  
*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

The County Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement an annual plan of evaluation which conforms to state requirements. (5 CCR 18279)

The County Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the County Board regarding enrollments in County Office preschool programs and the effectiveness of the programs in preparing preschoolers for transition into the elementary education program.

*(cf. 0500 - Accountability)*  
*(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

- 8200-8499.10 *Child Care and Development Services Act, especially:*
- 8200-8209 *General provisions for child care and development services*
- 8230-8233 *Migrant child care and development program*
- 8235-8239 *California state preschool program*
- 8250-8252 *Programs for children with special needs*
- 8263 *Eligibility and priorities for subsidized child development services*
- 8300-8303 *Early Learning Quality Improvement System Advisory Committee*
- 8360-8370 *Personnel qualifications*
- 8400-8409 *Contracts*
- 8493-8498 *Facilities*
- 8499.3-8499.7 *Local child care and development planning councils*
- 54740-54749 *Cal-SAFE program for pregnant/parenting students and their children*

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

- 1596.70-1596.895 *California Child Day Care Act*
- 1596.90-1597.21 *Day care centers*
- 120325-120380 *Immunization requirements*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 18000-18434 *Child care and development programs*
- 80105-80125 *Permits authorizing service in child development programs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

- 6311-6322 *Title I, relative to preschool*
- 6319 *Qualifications for teachers and paraprofessionals*
- 6371-6376 *Early Reading First*
- 6381-6381k *Even Start family literacy programs*
- 6391-6399 *Education of migratory children*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

- 9831-9852 *Head Start programs*
- 9858-9858q *Child Care and Development Block Grant*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

- 101151-101239.2 *General requirements, licensed child care centers, including:*
- 101151-101163 *Licensing and application procedures*
- 101212-101231 *Continuing requirements*
- 101237-101239.2 *Facilities and equipment*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45

- 1301-1310 *Head Start*

*Management Resources: (see next page)*

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (continued)**

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Expanding Access to High-Quality Preschool Programs: A Resource and Policy Guide for School Leaders*, 2005

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 1*, 2008

*Preschool English Learners: Principles and Practices to Promote Language, Literacy, and Learning*, 2007

*Prekindergarten Learning Development Guidelines*, 2000

*First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education*, 1999

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MANAGEMENT BULLETINS

08-13 *California State Preschool Program*, November 2008

01-06 *The Desired Results for Children and Families System*, May 31, 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*Good Start, Grow Smart*, April 2002

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Association for the Education of Young Children: <http://www.caeyc.org>

California Children and Families Commission: <http://www.cafc.ca.gov>

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association: <http://www.ccsesa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Head Start Association: <http://caheadstart.org>

California Preschool Instructional Network: <http://www.cpin.us>

Child Development Policy Institute: <http://www.cdpi.net>

Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>

First 5 Association of California: <http://www.f5ac.org>

National Institute for Early Education Research: <http://nieer.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

Preschool California: <http://www.preschoolcalifornia.org>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

When approved by the California Department of Education under the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), the Yolo County Office of Education may operate one or more part-day and/or full-day preschool programs in accordance with law and the terms of the state contract.

*(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)*  
*(cf. 5148.1 - Child Care Services for Parenting Students)*  
*(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)*

**Eligibility and Enrollment Priorities for Full-Day and Part-Day Programs**

Children eligible for the County Office's full-day or part-day CSPP program include those who will have their third or fourth birthday on or before December 2 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in the program. (Education Code 8235, 8236)

The Yolo County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall refer to the county's centralized eligibility list to identify children in need of services.

Children shall be eligible for subsidized services if their family meets one or more of the criteria specified in Education Code 8263 and 8263.1. (Education Code 8235)

For a child to be eligible for the County Office's full-day program, his/her family shall, in addition to meeting the above criteria, demonstrate need for the services due to any of the following circumstances: (Education Code 8235, 8263)

1. The child is identified by a legal, medical, or social services agency or emergency shelter as a recipient of protective services; as being neglected, abused, or exploited; or as at risk of being neglected, abused, or exploited.
2. The parents/guardians are engaged in vocational training leading directly to a recognized trade, paraprofession, or profession; are employed or seeking employment; seeking permanent family housing; or are incapacitated.

First priority for enrollment in any CSPP program shall go to neglected or abused children age 3-4 years who are recipients of child protective services or who are at risk of being neglected, abused, or exploited, upon written referral from a legal, medical, or social service agency. If unable to enroll a child in this category, the County Office shall refer the child's parent/guardian to local resource and referral services so that services for the child can be located. (Education Code 8236)

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*  
*(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*  
*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION** (continued)

After all such children are enrolled, the County Office shall give priority to eligible children age 4 years prior to enrolling eligible children age 3 years. (Education Code 8236)

**Additional Requirements for Part-Day Program**

The County Office's part-day CSPP program shall operate a minimum of three hours per day but less than four hours per day, excluding time for home-to-school transportation, and for a minimum of 175 days per year unless otherwise specified in the program's contract. (Education Code 8235)

*(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)*

*(cf. 6112 - School Day)*

After all eligible children have been enrolled, the program may fill up to 10 percent of its enrollment, calculated throughout the entire contract, with children whose family income is no more than 15 percent above the income eligibility threshold. (Education Code 8235)

The County Office may certify eligibility and enrollment up to 120 calendar days prior to the first day of the beginning of the preschool year. After establishing eligibility at the time of initial enrollment, a child shall remain eligible for the part-day program for the remainder of the program year. (Education Code 8237)

Fees shall not be assessed for families whose children are enrolled in the part-day program. (Education Code 8235)

**Additional Requirements for Full-Day Program**

The County Office's full-day CSPP program shall operate the number of hours per day necessary to meet the child care and development needs of families and for a minimum of 246 days per year, unless otherwise specified in the program's contract. (Education Code 8235)

Fees for participation in the full-day program shall be assessed and collected in accordance with a fee schedule established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Education Code 8235)

*(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)*

The County Office shall involve parents/guardians in the decision-making process to determine whether and how much to charge for field trip expenses and whether to require parents/guardians to provide diapers. A child shall not be denied participation in a field trip due to the parent/guardian's inability or refusal to pay the fee, and no adverse action shall be taken against a parent/guardian for that inability or refusal. (Education Code 8263)

**PRESCHOOL/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION** (continued)

Families shall establish eligibility for their children for subsidized services at the time of initial enrollment and shall provide ongoing eligibility documentation as changes in income or family size occur. If a child becomes ineligible for subsidized services, he/she shall continue to be eligible for part-day services, if available, or the family shall pay the full cost to remain in the program. If the need for services drops below four hours per day, the child shall be enrolled for only part-day services.

**Additional Requirements for Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Programs**

Prekindergarten and family literacy programs offered by the County Office prior to July 1, 2009, shall continue to provide classes in the attendance area of elementary schools in deciles 1-3 on the 2005 base Academic Performance Index. (Education Code 8238.4)

Such programs shall operate a minimum of 175 days for part-day services and 246 days for full-day, full-year services unless otherwise specified in the contract. (Education Code 8238.4)

Prekindergarten and family literacy programs shall provide: (Education Code 8238-8238.3)

1. Age and developmentally appropriate activities that are designed to facilitate children's transition to kindergarten
2. Opportunities for parents/guardians to work with their children on interactive literacy activities as defined in Education Code 8238

*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

3. Coordination of parenting education for parents/guardians of participating children to support their children's development of literacy skills
4. Referrals to providers of adult education and English as a second language as necessary to improve parents/guardians' academic skills

*(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)*

5. Staff development of participating teachers in accordance with Education Code 8238.3

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

The County Office may select a family literacy and education coordinator to coordinate the provision of literacy services to families in the county, create an organizational partnership between the program(s) and adult education programs in the county, and promote parent/guardian involvement in participating classrooms. (Education Code 8238.2)

**YOLO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

Adopted : August 25, 2015

Woodland, California