

Primary/Preprimary Education

Kindergarten programs

The district shall establish and maintain a kindergarten program or programs. A kindergarten program may be a half-day or full-day program, and the district shall receive state funding for students enrolled in these programs on a half- day or full-day basis, in accordance with state law. For the 2005-2006 school year and each school year thereafter, a child must be five years of age by October 1 to be eligible for enrollment in any kindergarten program, unless the child is otherwise enrolled in the program pursuant to applicable law.

Preschool programs

All district preschool programs shall comply with the rules established by the Department of Education and with the rules for child care centers established by the Department of Human Services. However, full-day kindergarten components of the district's preschool program are not required to comply with the Department of Human Services' rules regarding childcare centers.

Children with disabilities

In meeting its obligation to offer an individualized program for children with disabilities at age three, the district shall provide a special education preschool program at no cost to students who have been identified as children with disabilities pursuant to applicable law.

Colorado state preschool program

In addition, when the district receives funding from the state to do so, the district shall provide a preschool program as part of the Colorado Preschool program for three-, four- and five-year old children who lack learning readiness due to significant family risk factors, who are in need of language development or who are receiving services from the Colorado Department of Social Services as neglected or dependent children. All enrolling three-year olds must lack overall learning readiness that is attributable to at least three of the significant family risk factors. Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, a child must be the requisite age by October 1 of the applicable budget year to be eligible for enrollment, unless the child is otherwise enrolled in the program pursuant to applicable law.

Parents/guardians wishing to have their children participate in this program shall make application to the district. Participants then shall be selected on the basis of greatest need.

Other children who wish to enroll on tuition basis

In an effort to offer a well-rounded learning experience, the preschool program may be open on a tuition basis to students who have not been identified as children with disabilities pursuant to applicable law or who are not eligible for the program because of the factors listed above. The administration shall develop admission procedures that take into consideration space and staffing requirements.

ADOPTION DATE: March 19, 1997
REVISION DATE: March 20, 2002
REVISION DATE: January 17, 2005
REVISION DATE: November 21, 2005
REVISION DATE: May 28, 2013

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-20-101 et. seq. (Exceptional Children's Educational Act)
C.R.S. 22-28-101 *et seq.* (Colorado Preschool Program Act)
C.R.S. 22-32-119(1) (requires establishment of kindergarten program)
C.R.S. 22-54-103(9.5) (definition of preschool enrollment)
C.R.S. 22-54-103(10) (funding for kindergarten)
C.R.S. 26-6-102 (1.5) (definition of child care center)
1 CCR 301-8, Rules 2220-R-1.00 et. seq. (Rules for the Administration of the
Exceptional Children's Educational Act)

CROSS REFS.: BDFC, Preschool Council
IHBA, Special Education/Programs for Students with Disabilities