

Primary/Preprimary Education

Kindergarten programs

The district shall establish and maintain a kindergarten program. 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.

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 disabled pursuant to applicable law.

Colorado 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 who lack learning readiness due to significant family risk factors, who are in need of language development or who are receiving services from the Department of Human 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.

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 and mainstream learning experience, the preschool program may be open on a tuition basis to students who are not disabled or eligible for the program because of the factors listed above. The administration shall develop admission procedures that take into consideration space and staffing requirements.

Adopted: date of manual adoption
Current practice codified 1995

Revised: November 20, 2001
August 27, 2002
October 26, 2004
October 25, 2005
January 24, 2006
October 24, 2006
October 28, 2008
April 23, 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. 22-43.7-201 et seq. (full-day kindergarten capital construction funding)
C.R.S. 22-44-118 (full-day kindergarten reserve)
C.R.S. 22-45-103(1)(g) (Preschool program fund)
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. 22-54-105(4) (At-risk funding)
C.R.S. 22-54-108.5 (mill levy to fund full-day kindergarten)
C.R.S. 22-54-130, 131 (full day kindergarten funding)
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

NOTE3 : School districts participating in the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program must budget an amount equal to the districts per pupil operating revenues multiplied by the district's preschool enrollment. This amount must be allocated to the preschool program fund and may be expended only to pay costs of providing preschool services directly to enrolled children (for example teacher and paraprofessional salaries and benefits, supplies, home visits, and the like). Any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year must remain in the fund.

NOTE 4: Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-54-103, school districts participating in the Colorado Preschool Program may choose to determine the number of students enrolled in such preschool program(s), including those students with disabilities enrolled in such program(s), on November 1 within the applicable budget year or the school date nearest to November 1, instead of on October 1. These preschool students shall be counted as half-day pupils.

Note 5: If a school district establishes a preschool program pursuant to the Colorado Preschool Program Act ("Act"), state law specifies that beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, a district may count and receive funding only for students enrolled in a preschool program who are three or four years old on or before October 1 of the applicable budget year.

Note 6: Pursuant to CRS 22-54-103(10), a district may receive funding for highly advanced gifted children enrolled in kindergarten who are four years old on or before October 1 of the applicable budget year. The determination of whether a child qualifies as a highly advanced gifted child shall be in accordance with Colorado Department of Education's rules C.R.S. 22-20-104.5 (1.5)