



ORANGE COUNTY



UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN MIXED DELIVERY NEEDS ASSESSMENT YEAR 1 REPORT HIGHLIGHTS 2024

UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN (UPK) OPTIONS

- Providers reported unclear definition and offerings of UPK
- 53% of prospective families understand differences in UPK options
- 56% of prospective families know where to find more information on UPK options
- 52% of families use websites and Google searches to find UPK options
- 50% of families utilize family/friends for program referrals
- 97% of families prioritize safe and age-appropriate physical environment followed by age-appropriate activities at 93%

SERVICES AND REFERRALS

- 36 unique health service and 32 unique social service community partners were identified
- Greatest needs for services were early assessment and intervention, social-emotional/mental health supports, language services and health
- 59% of the providers rated being extremely prepared to provide developmental assessments at their sites
- Humanistic hand-off between partners was considered crucial for services

WORKFORCE SUPPORTS

- Greatest workforce needs were additional training, information on credentials, support to earn college degrees and on-site training
- Most recommended was a centralized one-stop-shop to understand credential and permit options

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORTS

- Highest professional development need was 74% for managing challenging behaviors
- 63% rated need for training in mental health, social-emotional development and positive teacher-child interactions respectively

FACILITIES AND LOGISTICS

- Highest facilities need was 61% for building and classroom space
- 56% rated highest logistics need for staff retention