

Universal Preschool Colorado

Provider Updates October 2023



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Topics

- Matching & Enrollment Updates
- Programs & Tuition
- Payments
- Quality Standards
- Resources



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Matching & Enrollment Updates



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Matching- Weekly DAA

Each weekly round starts on Monday and follows this cadence:

- Monday: Weekly Deferred Acceptance Algorithm (DAA) (a technology standard to matching solutions) run
- Monday: Matches are sent to providers
- Monday - Wednesday: Three-day provider review period
- Friday: Matches are sent to families
- Friday - Thursday: Family review and acceptance period



Walk-in Enrollment Process



- Provider supports the family who walked in to complete Universal Preschool application
- Provider informs LCO of placement
- LCO “Accepts” match on behalf of the family
- LCO notifies provider
- Provider completes the enrollment form

The provider must ensure there are enough seats available to serve walk-in students based on children in the matching queue in Universal Preschool Application Portal.

Providers are not required to accept walk-in enrollment. This is available for providers who have the capacity and would like to take advantage of this updated process.



Programs & Tuition



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Programs & Tuition

- Part-time is 10 hours/week
- Half day (AM or PM) is 15 hours/week
- Full day is 30 hours/week

- The hours awarded for Universal Preschool must be fully covered by Universal Preschool funding and providers cannot charge families additional tuition for these hours
- Providers are required to post their tuition rates



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When can providers charge tuition?

Example 1

- Child attends 15 hours/week
- Child is awarded standard 15 hours/week of Universal Preschool
- Provider can not charge tuition

Example 2

- Child attends 20 hours/week
- Child is awarded standard 15 hours/week of Universal Preschool
- Provider can charge tuition (or use other funding sources) for hours 16-20 based on the providers' published rate



Provider Payments - 4-year-olds



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Provider Payments

- Providers will be paid monthly based on the number of four-year-olds enrolled in a program by the 15th of the prior month.
- Next four-year-old payment November 8th
 - Based on enrolled children as of October 15th. Providers will no longer be paid on accepted status.
 - October is the last month of late enrollment for a ½ month rate. Students enrolled between October 15th-25th will receive a ½ month rate payment per child in the December payment.
- [Payment Reference Guide](#)



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Funding Eligibility

- Most four-year-olds will receive up to 15 hours per week of Universal Preschool
- Children with an IEP will receive funding in alignment with the number of hours in their IEP
- Children are eligible for 30 hours per week of Universal Preschool if they are in a lower income household and meet at least one other [qualifying factor](#).
- A qualifying child will only receive the additional hours of funding if they are enrolled in a program that is at least 30 hours per week.

UPK Program	Standard Rate	Additional Hours Rate (children who meet low income + one other factor)
Part-Time (10-14 hours/wk)	10 hours	Does not apply
Half Day AM or PM (15-29 hours/wk)	15 hours	Does not apply
Full Day (30-40 hours/wk)	15 hours	30 hours
Extended Day (over 40 hours/wk)	15 hours	30 hours



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*Additional hours will continue to be awarded monthly to children who are low-income +1 other qualifying factor, pending available funding

Three-Year-Olds



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Three-year-olds

Application and Eligibility

- Must have at least one [qualifying factor](#) to be eligible for Universal Preschool
- Apply directly to the school district in the application portal
- Districts may serve directly, or contract with a community-based provider

Payment

- School districts will attest to the Historical Allotment
 - Attestation is due 10/31 to the vendor
 - Confirm numbers and ages served (based on local school district kindergarten start dates)
 - Confirm any pass-through funds to community partners for preschool services
- Payments will be distributed as a lump-sum to school districts on November 3rd based on verified historical allowance.
- Three-year-olds with IEPs are funded separately
 - Monthly payments based on enrollment
 - Information about reporting requirements will come in November



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Quality Standards



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Project Overview

- Contracted with Early Milestones Colorado to facilitate the quality standards development process
- House Bill 22-1295 tasked the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) with developing quality standards for Universal Preschool
- The Rules Advisory Council (RAC) is composed of a diverse, fifteen (15) member group that regularly meets to discuss proposed rules for consideration, advise the Executive Director of potential impacts related to those rules, and make a final recommendation for the CDEC Executive Director to consider before promulgating proposed rule(s)
- [More information](#)

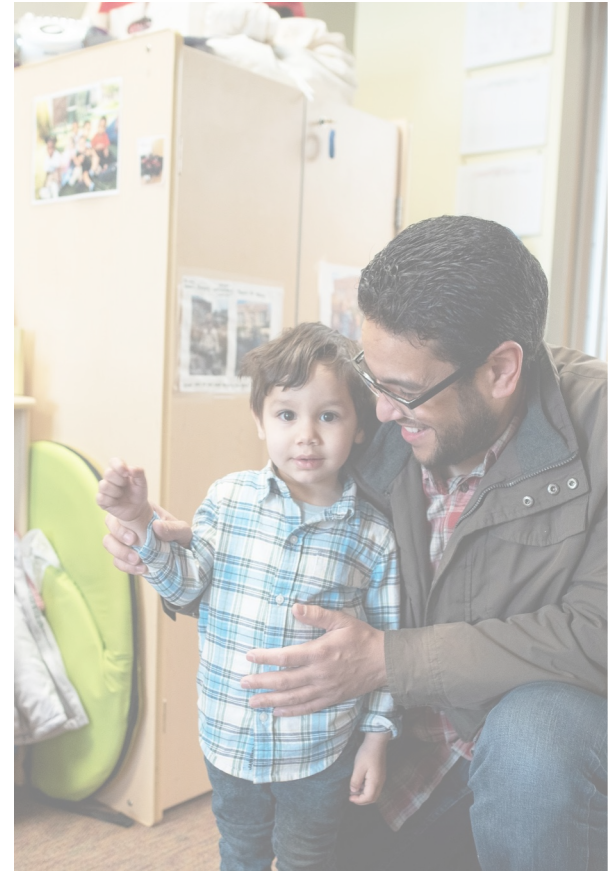


Project Timeline



Quality Standards Overview

- **Universal Preschool Quality Standard 1: Instructional Practice**
 - Instructional Practice (IP) is considered to be everything preschool providers ‘do’ with children. A well-balanced pedagogical approach or curriculum supports the development of the whole child and incorporates assessment.
- **Universal Preschool Quality Standard 2: Healthy Development**
 - Healthy Development (HD) ensures preschool providers support the healthy bodies and minds of children. Addressing children’s development is a critical component of a whole child approach.
- **Universal Preschool Quality Standard 3: Family & Community Engagement**
 - Family and Community Engagement (FC) allows for affirmation of all aspects of children’s identity and acknowledges families as their child’s first caregiver and most important teacher.



Related Documents

Previously released in Spring 2023:

- [Quality Standards Crosswalks](#)
- [Preliminary Stakeholder Input Report](#)

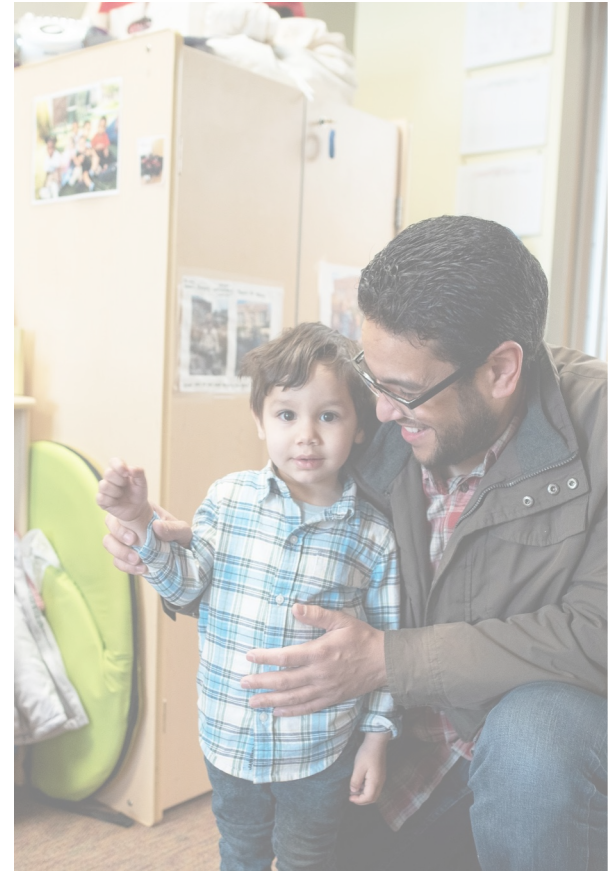
Released September 5, 2023:

- [Draft Universal Preschool Colorado Quality Standards](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)



Opportunities to Engage

- Once the draft rules for the proposed UPK Quality Standards are developed, the Colorado Universal Preschool Program will email and post the draft rules to solicit additional stakeholder feedback before the draft rules are reviewed by the Rules Advisory Council during the early part of next year.
- [Click here to see how to provide feedback on the draft rules](#)



New Resources



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Funding Opportunities

Provider Capacity Building

- Applications open 9/15/23 - 10/31/23
- Any Universal Preschool provider who is active, signed the agreement, and has matches is eligible
- Funding categories:
 - Furniture, Educational Materials and Supplies, Health Care Materials and Supplies, Technology, Site Infrastructure, Quality Standards

Provider Bonus

- Attestation available in September
- Universal Preschool providers who have never done CPP, active, signed the agreement and have matches by 8/31/23
- \$800 One-time payment

Eligible providers will receive a direct link to apply for these opportunities from MetrixIQ.



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Resources

- CCCAP and Universal Preschool
 - [Comparison chart](#)
 - [Scenarios](#)
- [Updated Guidance](#)
- Webpage updates
 - [Family Q&A](#)
 - [Find my LCO](#)
- [Head Start informational memo](#)



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A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a purple shirt and a necklace, is sitting at a table in a classroom, reading a large, colorful book. Several young children are sitting around the table, looking at the book. The classroom background shows shelves with books and a clock on the wall. The text "THANK YOU. Questions?" is overlaid on the image in white and yellow. The word "THANK YOU." is in white, and "Questions?" is in yellow. The text is framed by white L-shaped brackets.

THANK YOU.
Questions?



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