

Policy 5148: Child Care And Development

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 01/31/2017 | **Last Revised Date:** 10/12/2021 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 04/12/2022

The Governing Board desires to provide child care and development services which meet the developmental needs of children and offer a convenient child care alternative for parents/guardians in the community.

The Board shall enter into a contract with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the provision of child care and development services by the district.

The district shall work cooperatively with the local child care and development planning council, public and private agencies, parents/guardians, and other community members to assess child care needs in the community, establish program priorities, obtain ongoing feedback on program quality, and supply information about child care options.

The Board shall approve for the district's child care and development program a written philosophical statement, goals, and objectives that reflect the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the families to be served and address the program components specified in 5 CCR 18272-18281 and the accompanying administrative regulation. (5 CCR 18271)

When a district child care program is physically closed by local or state public health order due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district shall provide distance learning when required to do so as a condition of funding or when required by law.

Eligibility and Enrollment

Child care admissions policies and procedures shall be in writing and available to the public. Such policies and procedures shall include criteria designating those children whose needs can be met by the child care center's program and services, the ages of children who will be accepted, program activities, any supplementary services provided, any field trip provisions, any transportation arrangements, food service provisions, and health examination requirements. (5 CCR 18105; 22 CCR 101218)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that subsidized child care is provided to eligible families to the extent that state and/or federal funding is available and ~~shall establish in accordance with~~ enrollment priorities ~~in accordance with Education~~ specified in Welfare and Institutions Code 826310271 and 5 CCR 18106.

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To the extent that space is available after the enrollment of children who are eligible for subsidized services, priority for admissions shall be given to district students, children of district students, and

children of district employees.

A child's eligibility for transitional kindergarten enrollment shall not impact family eligibility for a childcare or preschool program. (Education Code 48000)

Staffing

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that individuals working in child care and development programs have the necessary qualifications and have satisfied all legal requirements.

Facilities

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Upon recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, the Board may approve any of the following for the provision of child care and development services:

- ~~1.~~ 1. The use of existing district facilities that have capacity
- ~~2.~~ 2. Renovation or improvement of district facilities to make them suitable for such services
- ~~3.~~ 3. Purchase of relocatable child care facilities
- ~~4.~~ 4. Inclusion of child care facilities in any new construction
- ~~5.~~ 5. Agreement with a public agency or community organization for the use of community facilities

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that facilities used for child care services meet all applicable health and safety standards. (5 CCR 18020; 22 CCR 101238-101239.2)

Complaints

For a licensed child care center, any complaint alleging health and safety violations shall be referred to CDSS. (5 CCR 4611)

Any other alleged violation of state or federal laws governing child care and development programs shall be investigated and resolved using the district's procedures in BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall annually conduct an evaluation of the district's child care and development services in accordance with state requirements. The results of the evaluation shall be used to develop an action plan which establishes program goals and objectives for the coming year and addresses any areas identified as needing improvement. (5 CCR 18279-18281)
