

# Early Childhood Updates

**Opportunities for All Branch  
Early Education Division**

**Date: February 28, 2024**



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

# Preschool / Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations (PTKLF)

- Describe knowledge and skills of children ages 3 – 5 ½ in center-based, home-based and Transitional Kindergarten (TK) settings
- High-level update webinar released on California Department of Education (CDE) YouTube page
  - Reflects recent research in child development
  - Increased focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion
  - New domain added of Approaches to Learning
- PTKLF will be released in summer 2024



Photo Credit: Gates Early Education Center; Los Angeles, CA

# Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Quality and Access Workgroup: Scope, Sequence, and Processes

The Workgroup is charged with recommendations for:

- increasing access to high-quality UPK programs for three- and four-year-old children offered through a mixed-delivery model that provides equitable learning experiences across a variety of settings;
- updating Prekindergarten (PreK) standards to support equitable access to high-quality PreK & TK programs through the mixed-delivery model & across all appropriate settings & funding sources; and
- ensuring that recommendations are in alignment with the work of the Master Plan, without recommending new system changes that create increased state or local costs to offer PreK across the mixed-delivery system.

# Report and Recommendation Development Process

<b>Phases of Recommendations Development</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Phase 1 - Emergent Recommendations Based on Presentations and Discussion</b>	January – August 2023
<b>Phase 2 - Recommendation Additions and Refinement</b>	September – December 2023
<b>Phase 3 - Report Development and Refinement</b>	December 2023 – February 2024

# UPK Mixed-Delivery Quality and Access Report

## Part 1: Background and Context

## Part 2: Recommendations

- II. A System Acknowledgements
- II. B Preschool Quality Standards Recommendations
- II. C Intersectionality of Quality and Access
- II. D Preschool Access Recommendations
- II. E Other Considerations

# Final Steps for the UPK Workgroup

- Final draft report was posted for final public feedback from February 9–19, 2024
- Report will be submitted to the legislature and the Department of Finance on March 31, 2024
- April celebratory meeting

# Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program

Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program (IEEEP) provides \$116 million to grantees to support increasing access to inclusive early learning and care programs for children with disabilities, including children with severe disabilities

Focus on collaboration and partnerships for professional development opportunities to include:

- Quality Counts California
- Subsidized Community Based Organization staff
- Subsidized Tribal Childcare staff

IEEEP request for applications released on February 2, 2024 and closes on March 15, 2024

# Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program

Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program (IEEEP) provides \$45 million to support state level systems building and professional development.

- Funds will be used to support a high level of need for a variety of programs, not just the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), in several areas including:
  - Professional Development
  - Instructional practices to support inclusion
  - Job embedded professional coaching
  - Community of Practices
  - Webinars and Training for Coaches