

Welcome and thank you for joining!



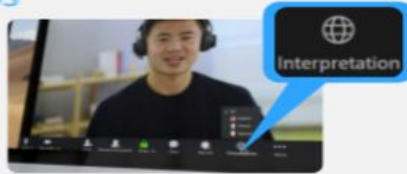
Early Childhood Leadership Commission

- This meeting will be recorded and posted on the ECLC Transition Webpage
- Please use the chat to ask questions for the presenters
- Spanish language interpretation is available. Follow the instructions to join the appropriate language channel

**Durante este evento, se dispondrá de interpretación de idiomas.
Para escuchar la interpretación en un idioma:**

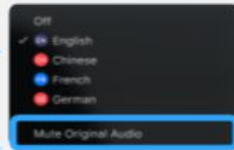


1. En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, haga clic en **Interpretation (Interpretación)**



2. Haga clic en el idioma que desee escuchar

3. (Opcional) Para escuchar solo el idioma interpretado, haga clic en **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



1. En los controles de la reunión, toque el icono de los puntos suspensivos **⋮**
2. Toque **Language Interpretation (Interpretación de un idioma)**
3. Toque el idioma que usted desea escuchar



4. (Opcional) Toque el interruptor **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



5. Haga clic en **Done (Done)**



Early Childhood Leadership Commission

Early Childhood Transition Planning
Monthly Town Hall
December 2022

Introductions

Early Childhood Leadership Commission Co-Chairs:

- **Susan Steele** - President & CEO, Buell Foundation
- **Sue Renner** - Executive Director, David and Laura Merage Foundation
- **Tammi Hiler** - Special Advisor for Early Childhood and K-12 Policy for Governor Jared Polis

Agenda

- Voices from the Field
- News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood
- Universal Preschool Program Progress and Updates
- Mythbusting and Q&A
- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Voices from the Field

Wilynn Webb, MA, LPC, NCC

Early Learning & School Programs Coordinator

Colorado Charter School Institute

Charter School Preschools

Helping Build Capacity for UPK

Wilynn Webb, Early Learning Programs Coordinator
Colorado Charter School Institute





What is a Charter School?

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdechart/faq>

Free Public School

Charter schools are tuition-free, public schools that have the flexibility to be innovative, entrepreneurial and self-governing.

Authorized

In Colorado, the authorizer is generally the local school district, but in some cases, it is the state via the [Colorado Charter School Institute](#).

Accountable

Charter schools are accountable to their authorizer, as well as to the students and families they serve, to produce positive academic results and adhere to the charter contract. Charter schools follow state and federal laws. They are held accountable for student and operational performance.



How many charter schools are there in Colorado?

Local District
Authorized

226

Charter School
Institute
Authorized

43





How many charter schools currently have preschools?

Local District
Authorized

30+

Charter School
Institute
Authorized

10





It's all about CHOICE for families...just like UPK

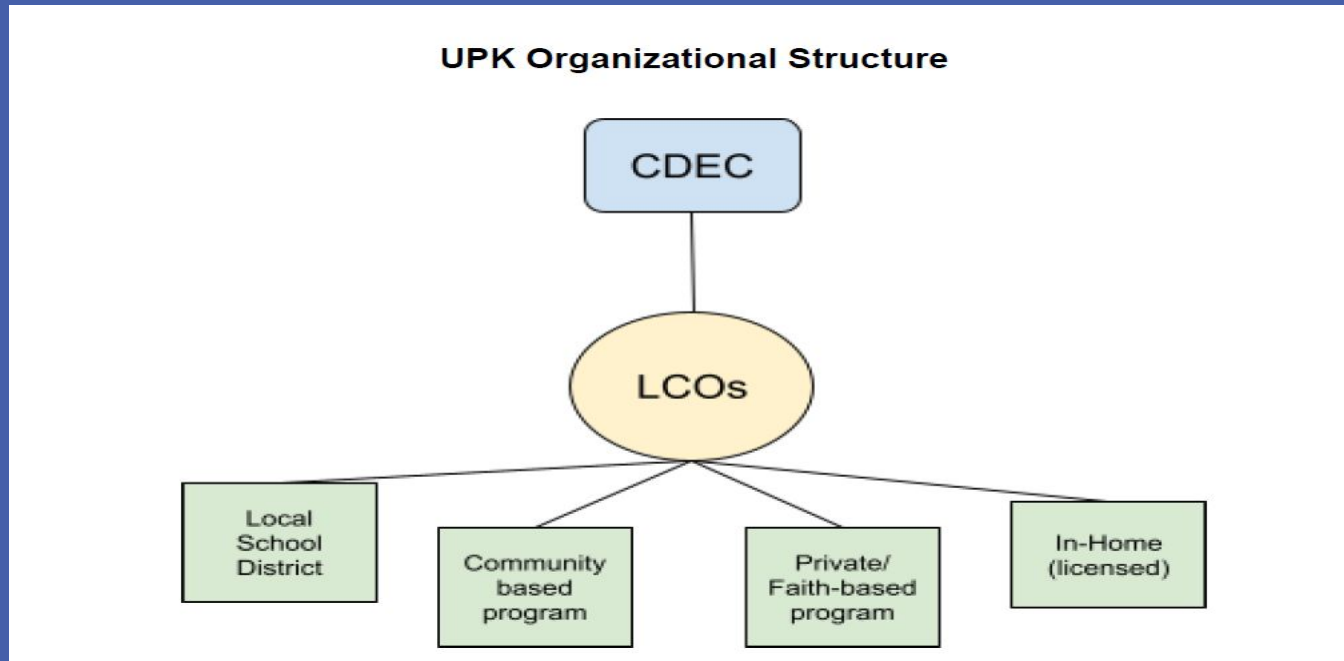
- Variety of models
- Variety of sizes
- Continuity of philosophy
- Scheduling options
- Parent Involvement
- Work with the LCO for their location
- Work with authorizer

• CSI

- 4 Montessori
- 3 Dual Language
- 2 Classical
- 1 Military Academy

- 7 LCO catchment areas

Where do Charter Preschools fit in the UPK Mixed Delivery System?



Building UPK Capacity Through Charter Schools

- Learn about the charter schools in your communities
- Explore their models and philosophies
- Make connections
- Educate families about charter school options
- You will see charter preschools in BridgeCare
- Get involved to help build choice and capacity
- More CSI schools will be adding preschools by 2024



Conference Session this Spring

“Are You Wanting to Start a Charter Preschool? What You Need to Know Now!”

- Colorado League of Charter Schools Conference
Feb 28-Mar 1
- Contact Willyn Webb, Early Learning Programs
Coordinator at Charter School Institute

willynwebb@csi.state.co.us





Support for Charter School Preschool Development

- AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation is proud to partner with the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools to create a professional learning community focused on best practices in early childhood education.
- This national cohort of leaders will gather virtually to strengthen their knowledge base around what it takes to launch a high-quality, student-centered PreK program in their community.
- Our learning will include a range of both expert-led and self-guided sessions, with the ultimate goal of empowering school and network leaders with the skills needed to confidently develop an early learning program.
- Feel free to reach out to Willyn Webb willynwebb@csi.state.co.us

Transition Planning

HB21-1304

- Signed June 23, 2021
- Called for the creation of two reports:
 - Department of Early Childhood Transition Plan
 - ECLC unanimously approved in November 2021
 - Colorado Universal Preschool Recommendations
 - ECLC unanimously approved in January 2022

HB22-1295

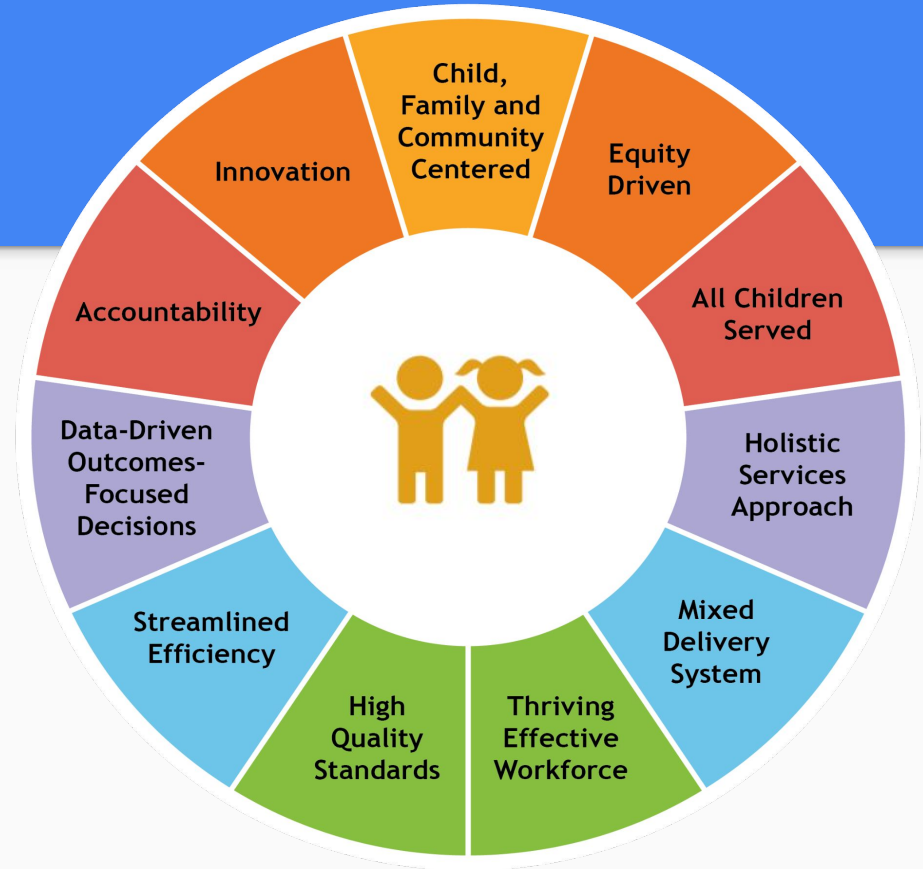
- Signed April 25, 2022
- Aligned with the recommendations of the two reports
- Established responsibilities of CDEC and the Executive Director
- Moved early childhood programs to the new department
- Created the Colorado Universal Preschool Program

CDEC officially launched July 1, 2022!



Guiding Principles

The CDEC and UPK reports centered on the guiding principles adopted by the ECLC





COLORADO

Department of Early Childhood

News from the Colorado Department Early Childhood

Mary Alice Cohen, Deputy Executive Director
December 2022

News from the CDEC

- Consultative Roles Conference
- Hiring Updates
- Strategic Planning



Consultative Roles Conference

- CDEC hosted the Whole Child Consultative Roles Conference Nov. 30-Dec. 1
- It was the first conference of its kind in Colorado to support the development of and connections among coaches, early childhood mental health consultants, child and adult food program consultants, nurse health consultants, and licensing specialists, among others.
- More than 440 individuals participated in the virtual conference, which featured more than 50 sessions
- Scholarships were provided to 113 attendees



Hiring Updates

- Our Chief Administrative Solutions Director, Tom Massey, began Dec. 12, filling the last of our three Office Director positions.
- Our Division Director for Strategy, Policy, Communications & Partnerships, Karen Fox Elwell, began Dec. 12, completing division leadership within the Office of Administrative Solutions.
- Within the Office of Program Delivery, our Early Childhood Workforce Division Director, Rebecca Vlasin, began Dec. 12, completing division leadership within that Office.
- Other updates:
 - UPK Manager, Julie Chavez, started Nov. 28
 - LCO Manager, McKenna Pullen, starts Jan. 9
 - Reviewing final candidates for Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care Program Administrator



CDEC Organizational Structure

Executive Director

The Office of Administrative Solutions

People Operations

Finance, Budget & Procurement

Strategy,
Policy, Communications & Partnerships

The Office of Business, Innovation, Technology, and Security Management

Enterprise Application Technology

Data Management, Privacy & Governance

Technology Operations

The Office of Program Delivery

Early Learning, Access & Quality

Universal Preschool

Early Learning Licensing & Administration

Early Childhood Workforce

Community & Family Support



Strategic Planning

CDEC Vision

All Colorado children, families, and early childhood professionals are valued, healthy and thriving.

CDEC Mission

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood ensures the delivery of a comprehensive, community-informed, data-driven, high-quality and equitable early childhood system that supports the care, education and well-being of all Colorado's young children, their families and early childhood professionals in all settings.

Values

- Equity
- Family & Community Focused
- Excellence
- Innovation
- Asset-Based



CDEC Goals

1

Effective, Efficient, and Equitable Access to High Quality and Affordable Early Childhood Services:

Ensure all families have equitable and easy access to high quality and affordable early childhood services to meet the unique developmental needs of children in mixed delivery settings, including home and communities, child care and preschools, and parental and child health settings.

2

Diverse and Qualified Early Childhood Workforce Statewide:

Create policies, partnerships, and funding streams to recruit, retain, well-compensate, and support a diverse and qualified early childhood workforce to provide care and education to all children and their families.

3

Partnership with Families and Organizations: Partner with families and organizations to meaningfully and equitably engage, support, and empower families and communities to promote children's overall development, learning, and well-being.

4

Well-coordinated and Sustainable Early Childhood System: Develop and enhance diverse partnerships with stakeholders (families, early childhood professionals, communities, local and state public and private organizations) to strengthen a statewide, comprehensive, well-coordinated, and sustainable early childhood system that meets the evolving needs of all children, families, and communities.

CDEC Goals

5

Leverage and Align Funding Streams to Maximize Impact: Leverage and align available federal, state, and local public and private funding streams to maximize impact and develop a sustainable funding strategy to maintain and strengthen early childhood programs and services.

6

Statewide, Integrated Data System and Research Agenda: Develop and continuously improve on a statewide, integrated data system and research agenda to access timely and actionable data, incorporate the voice of **diverse** families and communities to inform planning and policy development, enhance informed decision-making, and improve service delivery.

7

Workplace Excellence with a Commitment to CDEC Staff Diversity and Well-Being: Strengthen internal operations and prioritize employee diversity, **equity, inclusion, belonging**, and well-being to effectively and efficiently serve **Colorado's** children, families, and communities.



Strategic Planning - Next Steps

- Get feedback from ECLC and Family Voice Council
- Finalize umbrella strategies and share with stakeholders



Universal Preschool Program Progress and Updates





COLORADO

Department of Early Childhood

Universal Preschool Program Updates

Dawn Odean, UPK Director, and Michael Cooke, Transition Director
December 2022

UPK Updates

- Overview of Rate Setting Rule + Formula + Amounts
- Application Update
- What's ahead



UPK Rules Definitions

- **Part-Time/Slot - 10 Hours of Preschool Programming**
- **Half-Day - 15-20 Hours of Preschool Programming**
- **Full-Day - 30-40 Hours of Preschool Programming**
- **Provider Rate Formula - Formula for Setting Per-Child Rates**

Universal Preschool Program Eligibility

- Three-year-olds with one qualifying factor * **Part-time (10)**
- Children under three with one qualifying factor in waiver districts (Denver & Canon City) * **Part-time (10)**
- Children in the year school before they are eligible for kindergarten * **Half-day (15)**
- Children in the year school before they are eligible for kindergarten with one qualifying factor * **Full-day (30)**

Universal Preschool Program

Additional Provisions

- The department, working with local coordinating organizations, shall make every effort to blend and braid preschool programming funds with head start, local funding dollars, and where possible, the colorado child care assistance program (CCCAP), prior to distributing additional preschool programming funds to a child who is in a low income family or who meets at least one qualifying factor in section.
- Participating preschool providers may serve the number of preschool students allowed for by their current child care license.
- For families enrolled in a preschool program for more than the number of hours covered by the part-time per-child rate, or the per child rate for half day, the per-child rate will act as a tuition credit available to all families enrolled in a participating preschool program. This tuition credit will be paid directly to the provider and will be deducted from the total tuition costs for the program.
- Participating providers must agree to guarantee families at least the minimum number of hours defined in this rule for the rate that is provided.

Provider Rate Formula

$$((PKC * PS * PA) + (PKC * (1 - PS)) * CL) * LIC * GF * QE * CPI$$

THE FORMULA INCLUDES A BASE RATE COST OF HIGH QUALITY PRESCHOOL SERVICES (PKC) WITH SPECIFIC PARAMETERS ADJUSTING FOR PERSONNEL COSTS (PS) AND VARIANCES TO COSTS BY REGION (PA).

FURTHER ADJUSTMENTS ARE APPLIED FOR:

- LOCAL COSTS OF LIVING (CL)
- COMMUNITY'S POVERTY LEVEL (LIC)
- GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS (GF)
- INCREASED QUALITY OF SERVICES (QE)
- ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION (CPI)

Provider Rates by LCO

UPK Universal Application

- System live to LCO
- Providers live
- Test use
- Family application January 17 launch

- Families can search participating providers, prioritize choices, connect
- Providers can customize program information and highlights
- Review applications
- Connect with families

Application Process

- Eligibility is determined
 - Age eligibility
 - Colorado resident
- Additional qualifying factors
- Family choice
- Consideration of sibling, continuity of care, workforce
- Match
- Hold per provider exceptions
 - school/district boundary, IEP alignment, Head Start eligibility, COOP, employer or faith based considerations
- Offer

What's Ahead

- Family Application opens January 17
- Quality standards

Mythbusting and Questions



Upcoming Engagement Opportunities



Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Stakeholder engagement will remain critical to the success of CDEC and the universal preschool program. Stakeholders can expect to remain informed and engaged through the following new and existing channels:

- CDEC Website has officially launched: cdec.colorado.gov
- Sign up for the [CDEC Newsletter](#)
- Follow the CDEC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)
- [Request a Meeting or Presentation](#)
- Newsletter updates through the [Our Voice Newsletter](#)
 - Please sign up for *Our Voice* to continue to receive updates!
- Monthly town halls
 - Next Town Hall: Tuesday, January 10 at 5:30pm

Thank you!

