

## **FAMILY ACCESS MATRIX**

This matrix reflects program aspects that affect family access to Colorado's early childhood care and education system. It is intended to identify areas where we can improve alignment, coordination, and collaboration among programs for purposes of increasing access to quality early care and learning, of parents' choice, for: infants and toddlers; children in rural, urban and tribal communities; low-income, homeless, immigrant, refugee, and migrant children; children from families of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds; children with special needs; children affected by trauma; children of teen parents; and children whose families work, are involved in the child welfare system, or are in the military.

A content note: In light of the aforementioned purpose, the information contained within only relates to aspects of programs in their service of children younger than school-aged. An attempt was made to derive all information from statute, rule or program policy; where that was possible, the exact source is noted in footnote. Where information was not located or there was a lack of clarity in such sources, the information came through consultation with state leads for each program. Statutes and rules cited were current as of June 2019.

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Access Aspect	Program				
Funding Source(s)	<u>HS/EHS/MHS/SHS</u>	<u>CPP<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>CCCAP</u>	<u>Colorado Works (TANF)</u>	FFN
	Federal	State & local  *Can also be federal via Title 1, if district/school chooses* <sup>2</sup>	Federal, state, local	Federal, state, local  *Pxs eligible for chx care through TANF get CCCAP chx care* <sup>3</sup>	None
Cost to Families	HS/EHS/MHS/SHS	CPP	CCCAP	Colorado Works (TANF)	FFN
	None for the covered hours of programming <sup>4</sup>	None for the covered hours of programming <sup>5</sup>	Family copay (1%-14% of income) + Any fees charged by provider <sup>6</sup>	Same as CCCAP	Varies

<sup>1</sup> Several districts, such as Denver, run their own preschool programs with local tax dollars, in addition to offering CPP. As the requirements of these districts vary by locality and as they are not offered throughout the state, they were not included here.

<sup>2</sup> *Early Childhood Education Funding in Colorado*, available at: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cpp/ecefundinginco>

<sup>3</sup> 9 CCR 2503-9, 3.903(def. of "Colorado Child Care Assistance Program").

<sup>4</sup> *Head Start Program Performance Standards*, p. 18, available at: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hspps-appendix.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> See, C.R.S. 22-28-108(5.5).

<sup>6</sup> C.R.S. 26-2-805(4)(a).

	HS/EHS/MHS/SHS	CPP	CCCAP	Colorado Works (TANF)	FFN
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p><b>EHS:</b> Pregnant woman or chx (no citizen req.) &lt; 3 yrs. + 1) Family income ≤ 100% FPL* <b>OR</b> 2) Family eligible for public assistance, like TANF (or, would be in absence of chx care) <b>OR</b> 3) Chx homeless <b>OR</b> 4) Chx in foster care</p> <hr/> <p><b>HS:</b> Chx ≥ 3 yrs. (or turning by 10/1), but ≤ school-aged (no citizen req.) + 1) Family income ≤ 100% FPL* <b>OR</b> 2) Family eligible for public assistance, like TANF (or, would be in absence of chx care) <b>OR</b> 3) Chx homeless <b>OR</b> 4) Chx in foster care</p> <hr/> <p><b>MHS/SHS:</b> Chx &lt; compulsory school</p>	<p>Px signs px agmt + Chx (no citizen req.) = 3 yrs. (by 10/1) + 1) Has 3 risk factors: eligible for free or reduced lunch [130% - 185% FPL]; homelessness; abusive adult in home of chx; drug/alcohol abuse in chx's family; either px less than 18 and unmarried at time of birth; px not completed high school or GED; housing instability; or poor social skills <b>OR</b> 2) Needs language development (i.e. ELL/ESL) <b>OR</b> 3) Is neglected or dependent chx</p> <hr/> <p>Px signs px agmt + Chx (no citizen req.) = 4-5 yrs. (by 10/1) + Eligible for K next yr + 1) Has 1 risk factor: eligible for free or reduced lunch [130% - 185% FPL]; homelessness; abusive adult in home of chx; drug/alcohol abuse in chx's</p>	<p>Chx = citizen/qualified alien aged 0-13 yrs. + Family income &lt; 185% FPL (varies by county) - 85% SMI<sup>9</sup> + Family assets &lt; \$1M + Pxs: 1) working <b>OR</b> 2) involved in educational activity <b>OR</b> 3) in job training <b>OR</b> 4) or searching for a job (county discretion)<sup>10</sup></p> <hr/> <p>Chx = citizen/qualified alien in protective services + Chx income &lt; 185% FPL (varies by county) - 85% SMI<sup>11</sup> + Family assets &lt; \$1M<sup>12</sup></p>	<p>Family enrolled in CO Works program (primary custody of at least one dependent child or pregnant, resident citizen or qualified legal non-citizen, and income eligible (set by county))  + need child care to support self-sufficiency<sup>13</sup></p>	<p>Up to provider</p>

<sup>9</sup> Counties may set initial eligibility standards at 185%, 225%, or 265% FPL depending on their cost of living. Once eligible, families remain income eligible until they reach 85% SMI.

<sup>10</sup> While counties decide whether searching for a job is a permissible activity for initial eligibility, once a family is eligible, all counties must give them at least 90 days to find a new job if they become unemployed after being found eligible for CCCAP.

<sup>11</sup> See FN 9.

<sup>12</sup> C.R.S. § 26-2-805; 9 CCR 2503-9, 3.905.1.

<sup>13</sup> 9 CCR 2503-9, 3.906-3.906.2; See 9 CCR 2503-6, 3.604.2(L).

**Eligibility  
(cont'd)**

age by district date (no citizen req.)

+

Family income primarily from agricultural work

+

1) Family income ≤ 100% FPL\*

**OR**

2) Family eligible for public assistance, like TANF (or, would be in absence of chx care)

**OR**

3) Chx homeless

**OR**

4) Chx in foster care<sup>7</sup>

\*Grantees can opt to expand eligibility to 130% FPL, but must first document reaching all families fitting above criteria\*

family; either px less than 18 and unmarried at time of birth; px not completed high school or GED; housing instability; or poor social skills

**OR**

2) Needs language development (i.e. ELL/ESL)

**OR**

3) Is neglected or dependent chx<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Head Start Program Performance Standards, p.9-11, available at: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hspps-appendix.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> C.R.S. § 22-28-106(establishing basic eligibility standards); C.R.S. § 22-28-110(requiring written and agreed to px responsibilities as part of eligibility and dismissal of chx if px doesn't fulfill those requirements); 1 CCR 301-32, 22228-R 5.00 (listing eligibility factors).

	HS/EHS/MHS/SHS	CPP	CCCAP	Colorado Works (TANF)	FFN
<b>Application/ Recertification Process</b>	<p>Done by grantee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Interview of family (in person or by phone)</li> <li>2) Verification of age (cannot req. documentation if burden)</li> <li>3) Verification of eligibility category (provide multiple options, including written statements)</li> </ol> <p>HS: 2 years of eligibility unless compelling reason</p> <p>EHS: remain eligible while participate</p> <p>Eligibility redetermined only when chx moves EHS to HS.<sup>14</sup></p>	<p>Done at school district:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Completion of confidential CPP Eligibility Determination</li> <li>2) Verification of eligibility category</li> <li>3) Completion of F&amp;R lunch document</li> <li>4) Screening to determine eligibility (i.e. family interview, observations of kids in natural settings, developmental/vision/hearing screenings)</li> <li>5) Preschool application</li> </ol> <p>Only one year of eligibility if chx is 4 or 5</p> <p>Two years of eligibility if chx starts at 3, but req'd to redetermine criteria<sup>15</sup></p>	<p>Done at county:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Proof of citizenship/q. alien of chx</li> <li>2) Proof of income (last 30 days)</li> <li>3) Proof of qualifying activity, if applicable</li> <li>4) Proof of county residency</li> <li>5) Immunization records</li> <li>6) Compliance w/ chx support (county decides if req'd)<sup>16</sup></li> </ol> <p>Redetermination ≥ 12 mos. No limit on # of times reauthorized w/i eligibility guidelines.<sup>17</sup></p>	<p>Done at county:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Written application with signature</li> <li>2) Documentation to verify eligibility for CO Works - income verification; establishment of relationship to chx; compliance w/ chx support if other px out of home (unless good cause)</li> <li>3) Proof of citizenship/q. alien</li> <li>4) Proof of county residency</li> <li>5) ID and SSNs</li> </ol> <p>Redetermination @ 6 mos.<sup>18</sup></p>	None

<sup>14</sup> Head Start Program Performance Standards, p. 8-14 available at: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hspss-appendix.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> Colorado Preschool Program Handbook (July 2019), p. 13-19, available at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VadvgY0liMSDzEkdLrfl6-8QQRK0rU-pMplLHPQkmZU/edit>

<sup>16</sup> C.R.S. 26-2-805(5)(giving counties discretion to require CCCAP participants to comply with chx support, except in circumstances where it may cause danger, i.e. DV victims).

<sup>17</sup> C.R.S. § 26-2-805(7)(reqs. coordination w/ Head Start eligibility timeframe if dually registered); 9 CCR 2503-9, 3.905.3.

<sup>18</sup> 9 CCR 2503-6, 3.602; 9 CCR 2503-6, 3.606.1(c).

	HS/EHS/MHS/SHS	CPP	CCCAP	Colorado Works (TANF)	FFN
<b>Schedule</b>	<p>Varies by provider, but at least:</p> <p>EHS Center: 1380 hrs/yr (similar to yr-round care)</p> <p>HS Center: 3.5 hrs/day for at least 128 days if 4 days a wk, or 160 days if 5 days a week (will go up to 1020 hrs/yr over at least 8 mos for at least 50% of HS centers on 8/1/19)</p> <p>MHS/SHS Center: as many days and hours of service as possible</p> <p>FCCH (EHS or HS): 1380 hrs/yr<sup>19</sup></p>	<p>Varies by county, but at least:</p> <p>360 hours per school year = about 2.5 hours four days per week per school year, or equivalent<sup>20</sup></p>	<p># of hours covered by subsidy varies based on child's need for care<sup>21</sup></p>	<p>Same as CCCAP</p>	<p>Up to provider</p>

<sup>19</sup> Head Start Program Performance Standards, p. 21-22, 24, available at <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/hspps-appendix.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> Colorado Preschool Program Handbook (July 2019), p. 22, available at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VadyqY0liMSDzEkdLrfl6-8QQRK0rU-pMplLHPQKmZU/edit>

<sup>21</sup> C.R.S. § 26-2-805(7)(j).

Access Aspect	Program						
Funding Source(s)	<a href="#"><u>NFP</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>PAT</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>SafeCare Colorado</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Healthy Steps</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>HIPPY</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Early Intervention/ Part C</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Part B Preschool</u></a>
	Federal & state	Federal & private	State	State & private	Federal & private	Federal & state; private/public insurance	Federal, state, & local
Cost to Families	NFP	PAT	SafeCare Colorado	Healthy Steps	HIPPY	Early Intervention/ Part C	Part B Preschool
	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

	NFP	PAT	SafeCare Colorado	Healthy Steps	HIPPY	Early Intervention/ Part C	Part B Preschool
<b>Eligibility</b>	Chx ≤ 2 yrs. OR pregnant mx + First birth for mx + Mx = low income (200% FPL) <sup>22</sup>	Chx ≤ kindergarten-aged OR pregnant mx + Reside in MIECHV-eligible county (for federal funding) <sup>23</sup>	Chx ≤ 5 yrs. + Caregiver in need of support in: home safety, chx health, px-chx interactions + Reside in county w/ SafeCare services <sup>24</sup>	Chx ≤ 3 yrs. + Family able to benefit from additional ed/support	Chx = 3yrs. - kindergarten-aged + Reside in MIECHV-eligible county (for federal funding) <sup>25</sup>	Chx ≤ 3 yrs. + 1) 25%+ delay in one or more areas of development <b>OR</b> 2) Diagnosis of physical/mental condition listed in Established Conditions Database (i.e. ASD, Cerebral Palsy) <b>OR</b> 3) Lives w/ px who has been identified with a developmental disability by a local community center board <sup>26</sup>	Chx = 3-5 yrs. + 1) Unable to receive reasonable benefit from general ed due to disability (specific list) <b>OR</b> 2) Unable to receive reasonable benefit from general ed due to developmental delay (in physical, cognitive, communication, SE or adaptive) <sup>27</sup>

<sup>22</sup> This is mother's income, not family income. 12 CCR 2509-9, 7.818.

<sup>23</sup> Targeted to families with high need (i.e. low income, low educational attainment levels, LEP, single parents, hx of abuse, multiple chx under 5, children with disabilities), but not a requirement for eligibility. MIECHV-eligible counties: Morgan, Adams, Denver, Pueblo, Crowley, Otero, Saguache, Alamosa, Costilla, Gilpin, Clear Creek and Mesa.

<sup>24</sup> Visit [SafeCare.CO4Kids.org](http://SafeCare.CO4Kids.org) for the most updated list of SafeCare agencies and counties served.

<sup>25</sup> Targeted to families with high need (i.e. low income, low educational attainment levels, LEP, single parents, abuse history, multiple chx under 5, children with disabilities), but not a requirement for eligibility.

<sup>26</sup> 34 C.F.R. 303.5; 12 CCR 2509-10, 7.920.

<sup>27</sup> C.R.S. § 22-20-103(5)(a).

	NFP	PAT	SafeCare Colorado	Healthy Steps	HIPPY	Early Intervention/ Part C	Part B Preschool
<p><b>Application/ Recertification Process</b></p>	<p>Mx receives referral from health care provider (most often referred by nurse), friend or agency.</p> <p>Must enroll w/i 30 days of giving birth.</p> <p>No need to reapply. Eligible until chx turns 2 yrs.<sup>28</sup></p>	<p>Px refers themselves or receives referral from someone else. Most come from home visitor outreach.</p> <p>No need to reapply. Eligible until chx enters kindergarten.</p>	<p>Px refers themselves or receives referral from someone else.</p> <p>No need to reapply. Eligible until the youngest child in the home turns 6 yrs.</p>	<p>Px receives referral from pediatrician whose office is affiliated with Healthy Steps.</p> <p>No need to reapply. Eligible until child turns 3 yrs.</p>	<p>Px receives referral, usually through home visitor outreach.</p> <p>No need to reapply. Eligible until chx enters kindergarten.</p>	<p>Px refers themselves or a referral is made by someone else (family member, community partners or primary referral agency*). Referral is for screening and/or evaluation to determine eligibility. Screening and/or evaluation and initial IFSP meeting to plan for services must occur w/i 45 days.</p> <p>*Referrals req'd for chx under 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>1) subject of substantiated abuse/neglect case</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>2) exposed to illegal substances/withd rawal from prenatal exposure</p>	<p>Px refers themselves or receive referral from someone else. Px consents to screening and/or evaluation. Evaluation is done. Meeting occurs to determine eligibility. If eligible, IEP is developed.</p> <p>No need to reapply. IEP reviewed at least annually, and earlier if necessary.<sup>30</sup></p>

<sup>28</sup> 12 CCR 2509-9, 7.818.

<sup>30</sup> 34 C.F.R. 300.800; 1 CCR 301-8, 2220-R-4.00(4.02); 1 CCR 301-8, 2220-R-4.00(4.03(3)).

						Once eligibility is established chx remains eligible until 3rd birthday. IFSP reviewed/ revised at least every 6 mos. and rewritten at least annually. Services end if review/rewrite process determines chx may no longer benefit from early intervention services and parent withdraw, or chx reaches 3 years of age. <sup>29</sup>	
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>NFP</b>	<b>PAT</b>	<b>SafeCare Colorado</b>	<b>Healthy Steps</b>	<b>HIPPY</b>	<b>Early Intervention/ Part C</b>	<b>Part B Preschool</b>
	Nurse visits in home or place of mx's choosing. Frequency of visits changes based on age of chx (more at infancy and less in toddlerhood).	Once or twice a month in home or place of family's choosing.	18-20 weekly session of 1-1.5 hours in home or place of px's choosing	Specialist meets px and chx at home and in pediatrician's office. Schedule convenient to family and worker. Frequency determined by well-child visits schedule recommended by AAP w/ more visits based on family need.	Weekly home visits + monthly group meetings.	Developed based on chx and family's needs as documented on the IFSP. <sup>31</sup>	Base of at least 10-12 hrs per week, but increase/ decrease based on student need as outlined in IEP and provider. Could be done through school-based programs; Head Start; or community-based provider.

<sup>29</sup> 12 CCR 2509-10, 7.920 12 CCR 2509-10, 7.940.

<sup>31</sup> 12 CCR 2509-10, 7.940.

**KEY:**

CCCAP = Colorado Child Care Assistance Program

Chx = Child

CPP = Colorado Preschool Program

EHS = Early Head Start

FFN = Family, Friend, and Neighbor

FPL = Federal Poverty Level

F&R Lunch = Free & Reduced Lunch

HIPPY = Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

HS = Head Start

IEP = Individualized Education Program

IFSP = Individual Family Service Plan

MHS = Migrant Head Start

Mx = mother

NFP = Nurse-Family Partnership

PAT = Parents as Teachers

Px = Parent

Req. = required

SHS = Seasonal Head Start

SMI = State Median Income

SSNs = Social Security Numbers

TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Q. Alien = Qualified Alien