

**Policy 6170.1: Transitional Kindergarten**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 09/05/2012 | **Last Revised Date:** 03/02/2022 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 03/02/2022

The Board of Trustees desires to offer a high-quality transitional kindergarten program for eligible children who do not yet meet the minimum age criterion for kindergarten. The program shall assist children in developing the academic, social, and emotional skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

The district's transitional kindergarten program shall be the first year of a two-year kindergarten program. (Education Code 48000)

The Board encourages ongoing collaboration among district preschool staff, other preschool providers, elementary teachers, administrators, and parents/guardians in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the district's transitional kindergarten program.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

#### Eligibility

The district's transitional kindergarten program shall admit children as follows: (Education Code 48000)

1. For the 2021-22 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and December 2
2. For the 2022-23 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and February 2
3. For the 2023-24 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and April 2
4. For the 2024-25 school year, children whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and June 2
5. For the 2025-26 school year, and in each school year thereafter, children who turn four by September 1

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

Parents/guardians of eligible children shall be notified of the availability of the transitional kindergarten program and the age, residency, and any other enrollment requirements. Enrollment in the transitional kindergarten program shall be voluntary.

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5111.1 - District Residency)

(cf. 5111.12 - Residency Based on Parent/Guardian Employment)

(cf. 5111.13 - Residency for Homeless Children)

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

On a case-by-case basis, a child whose fifth birthday is on or before September 1 may be admitted into the district's TK program upon request of a child's parents/guardians, if the Superintendent or designee determines that it is in the child's best interest.

At any time during the school year, the district may admit into the TK program a child whose fifth birthday is after the date specified for admittance for the applicable year as described above of that same school year, provided that the Superintendent or designee recommends that enrollment in a TK program is in the child's best interest and the child's parents/guardians approve. Prior to such enrollment, the child's parents/guardians shall be provided information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of early admittance. (Education Code 48000)

#### Curriculum and Instruction

The district's transitional kindergarten program shall be based on a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. (Education Code 48000)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)

The program shall be aligned with the preschool learning foundations and preschool curriculum frameworks developed by the California Department of Education (CDE). It shall be designed to facilitate students' development in essential knowledge and skills related to language and literacy, mathematics, physical development, health, visual and performing arts, science, history-social science, English language development, and social-emotional development.

(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a plan for how all children in the attendance area of the district will have access to full-day learning programs the year before kindergarten that meet the needs of parents/guardians, including through partnerships with the district's expanded learning offerings, the After-School Education and Safety Program, the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), Head Start programs, and other community-based early learning and care programs. The Superintendent or designee shall present such plan for consideration by the Board at a public meeting on or before June 30, 2022. (Education Code 8281.5)

The number of instructional minutes offered in transitional kindergarten shall be the same as that required for the district's kindergarten program.

(cf. 5148.2- Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

(cf. 6112 - School Day)

Transitional kindergarten students may be placed in the same classrooms as kindergarten students when necessary, provided that the instructional program is differentiated to meet student needs.

The district shall maintain an average TK class enrollment of not more than 24 students for each school site (Education Code 4800)

### Staffing

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that teachers assigned to teach in TK classes possess a teaching credential or permit from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) that authorizes such instruction.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

A credentialed teacher who is first assigned to a TK class after July 1, 2015, shall by August 1, 2023, have at least 24 units in early childhood education and/or child development, comparable professional experience in a preschool setting, and/or a child development teacher permit issued by CTC. (Education Code 48000)

The Superintendent or designee may provide professional development as needed to ensure that transitional kindergarten teachers are knowledgeable about district standards and effective instructional methods for teaching young children, including, but not limited to, developing competencies in serving inclusive classrooms and dual language learners.

The district shall, commencing with the 2022-23 school year, maintain an average of at least one adult for every 12 students for TK classrooms and, contingent upon an appropriation of funding maintain an average of at least one adult for every 10 students commencing with the 2023-24 school year. (Education Code 4800)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

### Continuation to Kindergarten

Students who complete the transitional kindergarten program shall be eligible to continue in kindergarten the following school year. Parents/guardians of such students shall not be required to submit a signed parental permission form for kindergarten attendance.

A student shall not attend more than two years in a combination of transitional kindergarten and kindergarten. (Education Code 46300)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

### Assessment

The Superintendent or designee shall develop or identify appropriate formal and/or assessments of transitional kindergarten students' development and progress. He/she shall monitor and regularly report to the Board regarding program implementation, the progress of students in meeting related academic standards, and student preparedness for future education.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

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Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>
5 CCR 18000-18434	Child care and development programs
5 CCR 18068	Attendance and expenditure reports
5 CCR 18272	Developmental profile
5 CCR 18281	Environment rating scales
Ed. Code 17375	California Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program
Ed. Code 37202	Equal time in all schools
Ed. Code 44065	Issuance of and functions requiring credentials
Ed. Code 44256	Authorization for teaching credentials
Ed. Code 44258.9	County superintendent review of teacher assignment
Ed. Code 46111	Kindergarten, hours of attendance
Ed. Code 46114-46119	Minimum school day, kindergarten
Ed. Code 46120	Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
Ed. Code 46300	Method of computing average daily attendance
Ed. Code 48000	Minimum age of admission for kindergarten; transitional kindergarten
Ed. Code 48002	Evidence of minimum age required to enter kindergarten or first grade
Ed. Code 48003	Kindergarten annual report
Ed. Code 48011	Promotion/retention following one year of kindergarten
Ed. Code 48200	Compulsory attendance
Ed. Code 8207	California State Preschool Program administration
Ed. Code 8241	Staffing ratios for center-based program
Ed. Code 8281.5	California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program
Ed. Code 8970-8974	Early primary program, including extended-day kindergarten
Ed. Code 8973	Extended-day kindergarten

## Management Resources

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

CSBA Publication

Website

Website

Website

Website

Website

## Description

Desired Results Developmental Profile: A Developmental  
Continuum from Early Infancy up to Kindergarten Entry, 2015

California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 1, 2010

California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 2, 2011

California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 3, 2013

California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 1, 2008

Transitional Kindergarten FAQs

Transitional Kindergarten Implementation Guide: A Resource  
for California Public School District Administrators and  
Teachers, 2013

California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 2, 2010

California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 3, 2012

What Boards of Education Can Do About Kindergarten  
Readiness, Governance Brief, May 2016

[Transitional Kindergarten California](#)

[California Kindergarten Association](#)

[Commission on Teacher Credentialing](#)

[CSBA](#)

[California Department of Education](#)

## Cross References

### Code

0500

1220

1220

4112.2

4112.2

4131

5111

5111

5111.1

5111.1

### Description

[Accountability](#)

[Citizen Advisory Committees](#)

[Citizen Advisory Committees](#)

[Certification](#)

[Certification](#)

[Staff Development](#)

[Admission](#)

[Admission](#)

[District Residency](#)

[District Residency](#)

5123	<a href="#">Promotion/Acceleration/Retention</a>
5123	<a href="#">Promotion/Acceleration/Retention</a>
5141.22	<a href="#">Infectious Diseases</a>
5141.3	<a href="#">Health Examinations</a>
5141.3	<a href="#">Health Examinations</a>
5141.31	<a href="#">Immunizations</a>
5141.31	<a href="#">Immunizations</a>
5141.32	<a href="#">Health Screening For School Entry</a>
5145.6	<a href="#">Parental Notifications</a>
5145.6-E PDF(1)	<a href="#">Parental Notifications</a>
5148.2	<a href="#">Before/After School Programs</a>
5148.2	<a href="#">Before/After School Programs</a>
5148.3	<a href="#">Preschool/Early Childhood Education</a>
5148.3	<a href="#">Preschool/Early Childhood Education</a>
6011	<a href="#">Academic Standards</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6020	<a href="#">Parent Involvement</a>
6111	<a href="#">School Calendar</a>
6112	<a href="#">School Day</a>
6112	<a href="#">School Day</a>
6151	<a href="#">Class Size</a>
6162.5	<a href="#">Student Assessment</a>
6174	<a href="#">Education For English Learners</a>