

**Policy 5148: Child Care And Development**

Status: DRAFT

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The Board of Education 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.

Upon approval by the Board, the district shall enter into a contract with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Education (CDE) 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)

**Eligibility and Enrollment, and Disenrollment**

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 services are provided to eligible families to the extent that state and/or federal funding is available and in accordance with shall establish enrollment priorities specified in Welfare and Institutions in accordance with Education Code 102718263 and 5 CCR 18106.

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.

So long as the district has submitted a completed incidental medical services plan to CDSS, a child may be enrolled in the district's child care and development program prior to approval of the plan. Additionally, for a child with disabilities, the child may attend the district's child care and development program prior to the approval of an incidental medical services plan or amended plan of operation, so long as the forms have been submitted to CDSS. (Health and Safety Code 1596.802)

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

A child shall not be expelled or unenrolled from the district's child care and development program, nor shall the child's parents/guardians/caregivers be persuaded or encouraged to voluntarily unenroll from the program based on the child's behavior, unless in accordance with the procedures specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

When necessary due to a reduction in state reimbursements, families shall be disenrolled from subsidized child care and development services as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation.

**Fees and Charges**

Except when offering a program that is prohibited by law from charging any fees, the Superintendent or designee may charge fees for services in accordance with law and the accompanying administrative regulation.

**Staffing**

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

**Facilities**

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. The use of existing district facilities that have capacity
2. Renovation or improvement of district facilities to make them suitable for such services
3. Purchase of relocatable child care facilities
4. Inclusion of child care facilities in any new construction
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) the California Department of Social Services. For a license-exempt facility, such complaints shall be referred to the appropriate Child Development regional administrator. 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 Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 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 report shall be use to develop submitted to the Board and the CDE along with 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)

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