

## **Early Childhood Education**

### **Kindergarten Programs**

The District shall establish and maintain a kindergarten program or programs. A kindergarten program may be a half-day or full-day program, and the District shall receive state funding for students enrolled in these programs on a half-day or full-day basis, in accordance with state law. A child must be five years of age by October 1 to be eligible for enrollment in any kindergarten program, unless the child is otherwise enrolled in the program pursuant to applicable law.

### **Preschool Programs**

All District preschool programs shall comply with the rules established by the Department of Education and with rules for child care centers established by the Department of Human Services.

### **Children with Disabilities**

In meeting its obligation to offer an individualized program for children with disabilities starting at age three, the District shall provide special education preschool programs and services at no cost to students who have been identified as disabled pursuant to applicable laws.

### **Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program (CPKP)**

When the District receives funding from the state to do so, the District shall provide a preschool program as part of the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program for four and five year old children who lack learning readiness due to significant risk factors.

A child must be four years of age by October 1 of the applicable budget year to be eligible for preschool enrollment. Parents/guardians wishing to have their children participate in this program shall make application to the District. Participants then shall be selected on the basis of greatest need.

### **Other Children Who Wish to Enroll on a Tuition Basis**

In an effort to offer an inclusive learning environment, preschool and kindergarten programs may be open on a tuition basis to students who have not been identified as disabled pursuant to applicable law or who are not eligible for the Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program. The administration shall develop admission procedures that take into consideration space and staffing requirements.

Current practice codified 1994  
Adopted June 8, 1994  
Revised June 27, 2007

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-20-101 et seq. Exceptional Children's Education Act  
C.R.S. 22-28-101 et seq. Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program Act  
C.R.S. 22-32-119 (1) Establishment of kindergarten program  
C.R.S. 22-45-103 (1)(g) Preschool program fund  
C.R.S. 22-54-103 (9.5) Definition of preschool enrollment  
C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10) Funding for kindergarten  
C.R.S. 22-54-105 (4) At risk funding  
C.R.S. 26-6-102 (1.5) Definition of child care center  
1 CCR 301-8, Rules 2220-R-1.00 et seq.

CROSS REFS.: BDFC, St. Vrain Valley Early Childhood Council  
IHBA, Special Education Programs for Students with Disabilities

St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J, Longmont, Colorado