



Bi-monthly Meeting

Implementing Special Education for Preschoolers within UPK

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March 7, 2023

Meeting Intentions



- Bi-monthly virtual meeting - First and Third Tuesdays through June
- Audience: AU and LEA Special Education Directors, EC administrators, Fiscal representatives
- Facilitated by CDE with Consortium input in agenda planning, content and feedback loop, CDEC UPK staff invited
- Meant to be responsive, proactive, needs based & solution focused
- Meeting scope: Implementing Special Education for Preschoolers within the UPK landscape



Today's Issues



1. Repeat presentation from Financial Policies and Procedures meeting related to funding for students with IEPs from UPK
2. Plan for Stakeholder engagement on proposed ECEA Rules changes to conform with MOU
3. Joint Communication - UPK Update
4. Priority Issues for Resolution (ongoing list)



Fiscal & Funding Information Related to UPK and Preschool Students with Disabilities

Repeated presentation from FPP Committee Meeting, February 23, 2023

Topics:

- Funding Transfer Calculation
- FY 2022-2023 Funding Breakdown - General Ed
- FY 2022-2023 Funding Breakdown - Special Education
- Hold Harmless Amount
- State Funding for 3-Year-Olds
- Preschool Impact on Total Program Averaging
- Holding Special Education Seats
- Holding Late Enrollment Seats



ECEA Rules

Stakeholder engagement will occur prior to any State Board vote

Rules changes relate to MOU.

- Informal dispute resolution
- Training and certification

Information will be in the [Director's Corner on the ESSU](#).



Joint Messaging & Periodic Updates

Both departments are working together to address questions, released inaugural issue of a Joint Communication which addressed funding and a handful of questions. We understand there are concerns about dissemination of that information and ensuring consistent and whole lists for sharing information out at the same time to all who need to know.

[February 28 Issue](#)



This joint message from CDEC and CDE will provide periodic updates on issues related to the implementation of Universal Preschool Colorado and serving students with disabilities within the new preschool system.

FEB. 28, 2023

UPK statute prioritizes serving preschoolers with disabilities

Under the UPK statute, beginning in school year 2023-24, funding from the Preschool Program Cash Fund (PPCF) administered by CDEC will be provided to qualifying providers, and according to statute must be prioritized as follows for

Priority Issues (offered to CDE by Consortium)

Top Issues:

1. 30 hours of preschool for SWD – “parents believe 30 hours is guaranteed”
2. “Parent choice” in determination of educational program
3. Funding for “general education” and “special education”
 - Slots and allocations for full funding regardless of when child is identified and enrolled
4. CDEC and CDE MOU - ensuring compliance with IDEA and ECEA
5. Identification & Access for 3 year olds (Child Find related concerns)
6. Training for UPK providers and LCOs (addressed in MOU, requires ECEA Rule changes)
7. Troubleshooting challenges and violations of federal or state special education laws
8. Use of special education advisory group/s to support improvements



Questions



Next Bi-Monthly Meeting

Next Meeting: March 21st, 2:00 PM

