

# LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

REVISED

Policy 6170.1

## Instruction

### Transitional Kindergarten

The Board of Education desires to offer a high-quality transitional kindergarten (*TK*) program for eligible children who do not yet meet the minimum age criterion for kindergarten. The *TK* 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~~ *TK* shall be the first year of a two-year kindergarten program. The Board encourages ongoing collaboration among ~~district~~ preschool staff, other preschool providers, elementary teachers, administrators, and parents/guardians in *the TK* program development, implementation, and evaluation.

### Eligibility

The District's ~~district's transitional kindergarten~~ *TK* program shall admit children whose ~~fifth birthday lies between:~~

- 1) ~~November 2 and December 2 in the 2012-13 school year~~ *for the 2023-2024 school year whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and April 2*
- 2) ~~October 2 and December 2 in the 2013-14 school year~~ *for the 2024-25 school year whose fifth birthday is between September 2 and June 2*
- 3) ~~September 2 and December 2 in the 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter~~ *for the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter who turn four by September 1*

*A child's eligibility for TK enrollment shall not impact family eligibility for a preschool or childcare program.*

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

*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, 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.*

### **Curriculum and Instruction**

~~The District's transitional kindergarten program shall be based on a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. The number of instructional minutes offered in transitional kindergarten shall be the same as that required for the District's kindergarten program. 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's TK program shall be based on a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate.*

*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 student's 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.*

*The Board shall establish the length of the school day in the district's TK program, which shall be at least three hours but no more than four hours long except for TK students enrolled in expanded learning opportunity programs provided by the district pursuant to Education Code 46120. If the district has adopted an extended day kindergarten, the length of the school day for the TK program may be different than the length for the school day for the kindergarten program either at the same or different school sites. The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to CDE as to whether the district's TK programs are offered full day, part day, or both.*

*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 Safe Program, the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), Head Start programs, and other community-based early learning and care programs.*

*TK students may be placed in the same classroom with four-year old students from a CSPP program as long as the commingled program meets all the requirements of each program as well as the following requirements:*

- 1. The classroom does not include students enrolled in TK for a second year or students enrolled in a regular kindergarten.*
- 2. An early childhood environment rating scale, as specified in 5 CCR 18281, is completed for the classroom.*
- 3. All children enrolled for 10 or more hours per week are evaluated using the Desired Results Developmental Profile, as specified in 5 CCR 18272.*
- 4. The classroom is taught by a teacher that holds a credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing in accordance with Education Code 44065 and 44256.*
- 5. The classroom is in compliance with the adult-teacher ratio specified in Education Code 8241.*
- 6. Contractors of the district report the services, revenues, and expenditures for children in the preschool program in accordance with 5 CCR 18268 except for contractors of the TK program.*

*The district shall maintain an average TK class enrollment of not more than 24 students for each school site.*

### **Staffing**

~~Teachers assigned to teach in transitional kindergarten classes shall possess a teaching credential or permit that authorizes instruction at the kindergarten grade level. 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.~~

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

*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.*

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

*The district shall, commencing with the 2022-2023 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 2023-2024 school year.*

### **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~~ *kindergarten continuance* form for kindergarten attendance. A student shall not attend more than two years in a combination of transitional kindergarten and kindergarten.

*However, whenever children who would otherwise be age eligible for kindergarten are enrolled in TK, the Superintendent or designee shall obtain a Kindergarten Continuance Form signed by the parent/guardian near the end of the TK year consenting to the child's enrollment in kindergarten the following year.*

*A student shall not attend more than two years in a combination of TK and kindergarten.*

### **Program Evaluation**

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

### **Assessment**

*The Superintendent or designee may develop or identify appropriate formal and/or informal assessment of TK students' development and progress. The Superintendent or designee 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.*

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

~~8973 Extended day kindergarten~~  
~~44258.9 Assignment monitoring by county office of education~~  
~~46111 Kindergarten, hours of attendance~~  
~~46114-46119 Minimum school day, kindergarten~~  
~~46300 Computation of average daily attendance, inclusion of kindergarten and transitional kindergarten~~  
~~48000 Minimum age of admission (kindergarten)~~  
~~48002 Evidence of minimum age required to enter kindergarten or first grade~~  
~~48200 Compulsory education, starting at age six~~  
~~60605.8 Academic Content Standards Commission, development of Common Core Standards~~

Management Resources:

~~CSBA PUBLICATIONS~~

~~Transitional Kindergarten, Issue Brief, July 2011-~~

~~CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION~~

~~PUBLICATIONS~~

~~Transitional Kindergarten FAQ's~~

~~California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 1, 2010~~

~~California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol 1, 2008-~~

~~Prekindergarten Learning Development Guidelines, 2000~~

~~First Class: A Guide for Early Primary Education, 1999~~

## Legal References

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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
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 8322	California Prekindergarten Planning and Implementation Grant Program
Ed. Code 8970-8974	Early primary program, including extended-day kindergarten
Ed. Code 8973	Extended-day kindergarten
<b>Management Resources</b>	<b>Description</b>
California Department of Education Publication	Desired Results Developmental Profile: A Developmental Continuum from Early Infancy up to Kindergarten Entry, 2015
California Department of Education Publication	California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 1, 2010
California Department of Education Publication	California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 2, 2011
California Department of Education Publication	California Preschool Curriculum Framework, Vol. 3, 2013
California Department of Education Publication	California Preschool Learning Foundations, Vol. 1, 2008

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
Publication

California Department of Education  
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CSBA Publication

Website

Website

Website

Website

Website

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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

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services

[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

5123

5123

5141.22

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6020	<u><i>Parent Involvement</i></u>
6020	<u><i>Parent Involvement</i></u>
6111	<u><i>School Calendar</i></u>
6112	<u><i>School Day</i></u>
6112	<u><i>School Day</i></u>
6141	<u><i>Curriculum Development And Evaluation</i></u>
6141	<u><i>Curriculum Development And Evaluation</i></u>
6151	<u><i>Class Size</i></u>
6161.1	<u><i>Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials</i></u>
6161.1	<u><i>Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials</i></u>
6161.1-E(1)	<u><i>Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials</i></u>
6162.5	<u><i>Student Assessment</i></u>
6174	<u><i>Education For English Learners</i></u>
6174	<u><i>Education For English Learners</i></u>

*COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS*  
*11-08 Transitional Kindergarten Assignments, Credential Information Alert, August 25, 2011*

*WEB SITES*

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*

California County Superintendents Educational Services Association:

<http://www.ccsesa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov> California Kindergarten

Association: <http://www.ckanet.org> Commission on Teacher Credentialing:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov> Transitional Kindergarten California:

<http://www.tkcalifornia.org>

Policy  
adopted: 09/18/12