

Frequently Asked Questions about Preschool in Adams 12 Five Star Schools

Is my child eligible for Preschool?

- The Adams 12 Five Star Schools Early Childhood Education Program offers Preschool for children who either *a)* qualify for Special Education Services or, *b)* qualify for the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) by meeting criteria that would consider them an at-risk student by virtue of a variety of individual and family variables.

How do I know if my child qualifies for Special Education?

- If you have concerns about your preschool-age child's development you can have him/her screened through Child Find. If the free screening indicates your child is delayed in any of the developmental areas of the screening, he/she may be referred to the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Child Find Evaluation Team for a more comprehensive assessment. If your three to five year old child meets the criteria for receiving Special Education services, Child Find will work with the family to place the child in the Adams 12 Early Childhood Education Program, where specialized services will be delivered.

How old does my child need to be to get a screening?

- The Adams 12 Five Star Schools Early Childhood Education Program will screen children from birth until a child reaches the Kindergarten eligibility age. If you have any concerns about your child's development and would like a screening, please call Child Find at 720-972-6004, 720-972-6145, or 720-972-3870. For Spanish call 720-972-3870. If you have concerns with older children's development, please contact their school to discuss the issue.

How old does my child need to be to start Preschool?

- Children who qualify for Special Education services will be able to start preschool at the age of three. If your child is under the age of three, the Child Find Evaluation Team will work with county agencies who will provide services for your child until he/she turns three and then will transition your child into the district preschool program, if he/she still qualifies for the services.

Children must be four years old on or before October 1st each school year to qualify for the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) in the Adams 12 Five Star Schools district.

How do I know if my child qualifies for the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP)?

- Adams 12 Five Star Schools offers a limited number of spaces to children who qualify for CPP. Children qualify by meeting risk factors as set forth by the State of Colorado and the Adams 12 CPP Advisory Council. The risk factors include, but are not limited to: the family's income level, the education level of the parents and cases in which the child's primary language is something other than English. To determine if your child qualifies, you need to schedule an appointment for a free developmental screening and a parent interview to determine if your child meets the criteria set forth by the State and the Adams 12 CPP Advisory Council. You will be notified at the time of the screening if your child qualifies. At that time your child will tentatively be placed on a list for one of the ten preschool programs located throughout the district or in one of the contracting community programs. If your child qualifies, you will receive information over the summer regarding the registration process and information about the first day of school.

Children must be four years old on or before October 1st each school year to qualify for the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) in Adams 12 Five Star Schools. For the 2012-2013 school year your child's birth date must be between October 2, 2007 and October 1, 2008.

How do I schedule the CPP screening appointment?

- Beginning March 1, 2012 we will accept names and schedule appointments for the screening. Screenings are held in March, April, May, June and August. To schedule an appointment, please call Becky McLaughlin at 720-972-8761 or Jody Davis at 720-972-6145 or Katrina Groetken at 720-972-3870 or Celeste Scott at 720-972-8764. During the week of March 1st you will likely reach voice mail as we will receive a large amount of calls at that time. Please call only one person and leave one message. Leaving multiple messages may delay the response time for your return call. Calls will be returned in the order they are received. For Spanish call 720-972-3870.

What are the hours for preschool?

- At each of the preschool sites, morning and afternoon classes are offered. Each class session is 2 hours and 55 minutes in duration. The specific hours at each preschool site vary based on the school's hours.

In general, most three year olds attend two days per week either Monday and Thursday or Tuesday and Friday. Children in their pre-kindergarten year typically attend four days per week Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Placement is based on space availability. Children do not attend class on Wednesdays.

What if I want to pay for preschool?

- The Adams 12 Five Star Schools Early Childhood Education Program does not offer any tuition spots. Children must qualify either through Special Education or CPP.

There is currently one tuition program within the district that offers child care and a part-day preschool program. For information on this program and their rates please call the Preschool Director at the Bright Horizons Preschool at 720-972-4515.

How much does preschool cost?

- Children who qualify for Preschool Special Education services or who qualify for the Colorado Preschool Program receive preschool at no cost.

Do I have to provide my own transportation?

- Transportation is not available for CPP students, and is available to only a select number of students with significant special education needs.

What if I do not live within Adams 12 Five Star Schools boundaries?

- At this time, due to space limitations, the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Early Childhood Education Program cannot offer preschool to out-of-district students.