

Pacific Preschool Admissions Priorities

Board Approved June 21, 2022

Eligibility and Age Definitions

To be admitted to Pacific Preschool, all children must be 3 years old*, be able to use the bathroom independently, and meet the state-mandated vaccination requirements for preschoolers. Children must have all forms and vaccine requirements completed prior to the first day of school.

*Definition of Three Years Old: Children who have their third birthday on or before Dec. 1 are considered three-year-olds and may enroll in August of that year. Children who have their third birthday on Dec. 2 or later may enroll on or after their third birthday.

Definition of Four Years Old: Children who have their fourth birthday on or before Dec. 1 of the school year are considered four-year-olds for that school year.

Determination of the Number of Available Slots

Pacific Preschool is licensed for a maximum of 24 students per day. Based on staffing, funding, the details of various grants, and other factors, the superintendent will determine the number of slots available in each of the following categories:

- CSPP Slots - State Funded (Tuition-Free) Preschool
- Tuition-Based Slots
- Flex Slots

After the superintendent determines the number of slots available in each category, the registrar, in consultation with the superintendent, will fill the slots based on the priority order below for each category.

CSPP Admission Priority

1. Children who are recipients of child protective services, or who have been determined to be neglected, abused, or exploited or at risk thereof. (If Pacific Preschool is unable to enroll a child in this first priority category, we shall refer the child's parent or guardian to local resources and referral services so that services for the child can be located.)
2. Eligible CSPP four-year-old children, in the following order:
 - a. Eligible children who were enrolled in CSPP as a three-year-old.
 - b. Children whose families have the lowest income ranking based on the most recent Schedule of Income Ceiling eligibility table as published by the SSPI at the time of enrollment.

- c. When two or more families have the same income ranking, according to the most recent Schedule of Income Ceiling eligibility table, the child with exceptional needs as defined in EC section 8208 shall be admitted first.
 - d. If there are no families with children with exceptional needs, the family that has been on the waiting list for the longest time shall be admitted first.
3. Eligible CSPP three-year old children, in the following order:
- a. Children whose families have the lowest income ranking based on the most recent Schedule of Income Ceiling eligibility table as published by the SSPI at the time of enrollment.
 - b. When two or more families have the same income ranking, according to the most recent Schedule of Income Ceiling eligibility table, the child with exceptional needs as defined in EC section 8208 shall be admitted first.
 - c. If there are no families with children with exceptional needs, the family that has been on the waiting list for the longest time shall be admitted first.
4. If all otherwise eligible children have been enrolled, Pacific Preschool may enroll the following children in the order listed:
- a. Children from families whose income is no more than 15% above the eligibility income threshold may be enrolled. Children from families enrolled under this exception may not exceed ten percent of the participating CSPP's total contract enrollment. Priority shall be given to four-year-olds before three-year-olds.
 - b. Children with exceptional needs as defined in EC Section 8208 may be enrolled, regardless of family's income. Children enrolled pursuant to this subsection, shall not count towards the ten percent limitation. Priority shall be given to four-year-olds before three-year-olds.
 - c. Pacific Preschool may enroll CSPP four-year-old children whose families reside within the attendance boundary of Pacific Elementary School District without establishing eligibility pursuant to EC sections 8263(a)(1)(A) and (B). These families shall, to the extent possible, be enrolled in income ranking order, lowest to highest.

Tuition-Based Admission Priority

If further prioritization is necessary within any of these categories, older children should be prioritized over younger children. If that is insufficient to resolve the priority issue, priority shall be determined by date of inquiry.

- 1. Children who are currently enrolled in Pacific Preschool.
- 2. Children of families who live or work or will live or work within Pacific Elementary School's district boundaries.
 - a. In split custody families, residency is defined as the location where the student sleeps a majority of nights.
 - b. Working within the district is defined as a child who has at least one custodial parent who regularly works 10 hours or more per week, Mondays through Fridays, within the district boundaries.

3. Four-year-old siblings of students who are currently enrolled in Pacific Preschool.
4. Three-year-old siblings of current Pacific Elementary students who are classified as, or who are likely to be classified as, English Language Learners.
5. Children who will be simultaneously enrolled in transitional kindergarten.
6. Three-year-old siblings of students who are currently enrolled in Pacific Preschool or Pacific Elementary School.
7. Siblings of students accepted into and expected to attend programs and/or grade levels of Pacific Elementary School determined by the administration to be under-enrolled.
8. Other four-year-olds, if necessary, ordered by date of inquiry.
9. Other three-year-olds, if necessary, ordered by date of inquiry.

Flex Admission Priority

The purpose of flex slots is to allow the superintendent and registrar flexibility to enroll children who have a high degree of need for preschool services, and who may arrive in the district mid-year, or at another time when regular CSPP and Tuition-Based slots are full. Flex slots may be used for families receiving CSPP or paying tuition. They may also be used to enroll students between ages 2.5 and 3 if the superintendent determines the circumstances warrant it. The superintendent shall have full authority to prioritize use of flex slots, but they are intended for children such as:

- Children of families who are residing in or have recently taken up residence within the district boundaries, who are experiencing homelessness, or who are migrant.
- Children whose families are unable to accept a transitional kindergarten slot unless the child can simultaneously enroll in preschool.
- In-district children who would benefit from early academic intervention for any reason, including special needs or English Language development.
- Siblings of students accepted into and expected to attend programs and/or grade levels of Pacific Elementary School determined by the administration to be under-enrolled.

When using flex spots to enroll CSPP students, the district will continue to follow the CSPP enrollment priorities listed above.

Admission to Pacific Elementary School Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten

Admission to Pacific Elementary School is a separate process from admission to Pacific Preschool, and requires different forms and vaccinations.

Age-appropriate preschool students enrolled by January 1 and who submit the appropriate forms by the February 1 deadline have priority for enrollment in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten at Pacific Elementary School the following fall.

Note: The editable version of this document is a Google Doc in Elizabeth Andrews' Google Drive titled "Pacific Preschool Admissions Priorities"

