



Mapleton Public Schools Early Childhood Education Enrollment FAQ

Mapleton Public Schools is pleased to offer extensive early childhood education programming. We serve more than 500 preschool students at seven Mapleton schools. Students who will be **3-or-4-years-old by October 1 of the current school year** are eligible to be screened for preschool.

Program overview

The mission of Mapleton's Early Childhood Education Program is to build strong relationships between students, parents and staff and fully engage children in building independence, confidence and joy in learning. This is achieved through collaboration, persistence, play, and positive attitudes.

Our preschool program is fully inclusive, meeting the needs of all learners. Mapleton's Early Childhood Education program serves families through:

- Colorado Preschool Program
- Tuition-based Program
- Special Education Program

Q: Is preschool free?

A: Mapleton is committed to making early childhood education affordable and accessible for every family. Preschool is not yet universally funded in the Colorado, but the Colorado Preschool Program makes it possible for eligible families to enroll in preschool at no cost. Mapleton offers a limited number of state-funded spots to eligible children. Currently about 85% of our student population can receive preschool for free.



Toddler Care and Preschool Enrollment Information

Email: Preschool@mapleton.us

Call: 303.853.1781

Visit: The Welcome Center | 8990 York St., Thornton, 80229
www.mapleton.us

Q: What is the Colorado Preschool Program and how do I know if I qualify?

A: The Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) is a state-funded early childhood education program administered by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This program makes it possible for young learners to attend Mapleton preschools at little or no cost. Each participating school district is given a predetermined number of half-day positions to serve eligible children. Eligibility for CPP is determined by your child's age and certain risk factors present in their lives, which have been shown to be associated with later challenges in school. A variety of factors will be considered including household income, free or reduced lunch eligibility, homelessness, language skills, social skills and more. More information about CPP is available in the CPP Handbook.

Q: Who is eligible for enrollment into preschool?

A: Children may enroll in Mapleton's Preschool program when they are three years or four years old by October 1st of the current school year.

Q: How do I enroll my child in preschool?

A: Preschool applications for enrollment are accepted online:

- Families with [students currently enrolled in Mapleton apply here](#).
- Families [new to Mapleton apply here](#).

Q: Which schools in Mapleton offer half-day preschool?

A: Half-day preschool is offered at six schools in Mapleton:

- Adventure Elementary (7725 Conifer Rd., Denver)
- Explore PK-8 (10310 York St., Thornton)
- Global Primary Academy (7480 North Broadway, Denver)
- Preschool on Poze, (2410 Poze Blvd., Thornton)
- Trailside Academy (2300 W. 27th Ave., Denver)
- Welby Community School (1200 E 78th Ave., Denver)

Q: Does Mapleton offer full day preschool?



A: Full-day preschool is offered at three locations. These locations have limited enrollment slots and are tuition based.

- Global Primary Academy (7480 North Broadway, Denver)
- Preschool on Poze, (2410 Poze Blvd., Thornton)
- Trailside Academy (2300 W. 27th Ave., Denver)

Q: What are Mapleton’s tuition rates for preschool?

A: Tuition rates are updated in April of the year prior to the new school year. Current tuition rates are posted [HERE](#).

Q: What if I can’t afford tuition and I don’t qualify for the Colorado Preschool Program?

A: The Mapleton Early Childhood Education program accepts the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). CCAP provides financial assistance to eligible low-income families who need childcare benefits for children birth to age 12. If you are eligible, a portion of the total childcare cost will be paid. Please visit the Colorado Peak website for eligibility information. Families need to be working or going to school full time to be eligible for CCAP.

Q: Can my child get transportation to preschool?

A: Transportation to and from school is provided to families living within the district boundaries. Transportation is provided during regular school hours only (full day and/or morning or afternoon half-day sessions) and is not available for families in our before and aftercare program.

Q: How will my child’s classroom be staffed?

A: As both a licensed childcare program and a State funded preschool program, we follow all rules and regulations from both agencies. All staff pass numerous background checks and meet the basic requirements for hire with child care licensing. Our lead teachers all have a BA in education, with most of them licensed teachers in the state of

Colorado either in Early Childhood Education or Early Childhood Special Education. We staff our classrooms with a 1:8 ratio and a maximum of 16 students. A small class size with two adults provides a lot of hands on and individualized instruction.

Q: Are there private tuition spots available if my child does not qualify for a funded tuition spot?

A: A limited number of children whose families are interested in enrolling on a tuition basis are accepted. Tuition is charged weekly for full day families and monthly for half day families. Families enrolling their children in the tuition program are required to sign a tuition agreement. The agreement lists a non-refundable deposit that is paid at the time of the agreement. This deposit is applied toward the child’s first week or month of tuition. The Tuition Agreement is effective for the entire school year and payment(s) for the entire year of enrollment is expected.

Q: What is the enrollment timeline for preschool in Mapleton?

A:

January - Preschool applications for enrollment are accepted - [apply online!](#) Evaluations for eligibility-based assistance will be scheduled in May.

March - Apply for preschool by March 31 to be included in the first round of screenings.

June - Eligibility-based assistance appointments and school placements

June - September - Ongoing eligibility-based assistance appointments and placement

Out-of-district placements made if space is available.

Q: What documents are required when submitting an application for enrollment into preschool?

A:

The following documents are required when applying for enrollment:

- Parent/Guardian photo ID or driver’s license
- Proof of residence (water or electric bills received in the past 30 days, ONLY, must be an original statement, mortgage statement, Please Note: Discontinued notices NOT acceptable)
- A copy of your child's birth certificate
- Your child's current immunization record
- Current guardianship paperwork (if applicable)
- Proof of current physical
- Child participates in a Preschool Screening with a member of the Early Childhood Education Team.

Q: I live outside of Mapleton district boundaries. Can I still apply?

A: Residents living within Mapleton’s boundaries receive

priority for enrollment. Out of district families may submit their online application starting March 1. If space is available, out-of-district placements will be notified in September.

Q: How can I make sure my child gets in the same school as their sibling?

A: As a district of choice, we do our best to honor parent choice. We will make every effort to place siblings together, but it will ultimately be based on program and space availability. To help us with this process, be sure to select your top three school choices on the preschool application. Additionally, be sure to complete the section of the application about siblings and their school enrollment. The program will make every effort to place siblings at the same school but it will ultimately be based on program and space availability.

Q: Can I choose my child's teacher?

A: When a child is assigned to a classroom, the placement is based on the professional judgment of our staff, class size, and the specific needs of the child. Input from the parents may also be obtained to ensure a successful year.

Q: Does the Mapleton offer a Toddler Program?

A: Mapleton believes it is never too early to begin developing your child's love of learning. Mapleton's Toddler Program is engaging, nurturing, and stimulating for young minds. Under the constant care and supervision of kind, trusting adults, children ages one and two play, sing, dance, paint, draw, read and more! Mapleton's competitively priced Toddler Program is available to children and grandchildren of Mapleton employees; however, limited community spots are available. Toddler care is available at the following sites:

- Global Primary Academy (7480 North Broadway, Denver)
- Preschool on Poze (2410 Poze Blvd., Thornton)

Q: How old does my children have to be to enroll in Mapleton's Toddler program?

A: Children may enroll in Mapleton's Toddler program when they are 12 months of age.

Q: Does Mapleton's preschool accept students who miss or exceed the eligible age requirements?

A: Families with students who are not age eligible for the Mapleton Early Childhood Education Preschool Program but would like to be considered can apply for the program if:

- Their child is age eligible for kindergarten but turns 5 between June 1st and Sept. 30th of the school year.
- Their child is not yet age eligible for preschool but turns 3 between October 2nd and October 31st of the

current school year.

Admission to the program will be based on space and program availability and will not be determined until September 1st of the current school year. Additionally, both options are only available to families paying tuition for preschool. State funding cannot be used for non-age eligible students.

SPECIFIC CHILD FIND/SPECIAL EDUCATION INFORMATION

What is Child Find?

Child Find is a part of Colorado's system to find and evaluate any children who may have a disability or developmental delay.

What do I do if I am concerned about my child's development?

If your child is 2 years and 10 months (34 months) or older call Lori Penwell with Child Find at Mapleton Public Schools at 303.853.1130 or email PenwellL@mapleton.us Para Español: Emily Piper Allen 303.853.1106 o PiperE@mapleton.us

If your child is less than 2 years 10 months old (34 months), call North Metro Community Services at 303.453.3302 to ask for an evaluation for early intervention services.

What happens after I call Child Find?

First of all, we will check to make sure you live in the Mapleton Public School district. If you do, we will start with a screening. The screening will look at all areas of development, we will ask you questions about your child and either observe you playing with your child or play with him/her ourselves, depending on COVID regulations. If the screening shows there are concerns in any area of development, we will recommend a full evaluation. Every step is completely optional and must be approved of by the parent. The evaluation will be used to see if your child qualifies for special education services. After the evaluation, the team, including the parents, will meet to discuss the results of the evaluation and determine eligibility for special education services.

What do I do if my child received speech privately?

If your child is 2 years 10 months (34 months) or older call Lori Penwell with Child Find at Mapleton Public Schools at 303.853.1130 or email her at PenwellL@mapleton.us Para Español: Emily Piper Allen 303.853.1106 o PiperE@mapleton.us.

What if my Child has an IEP from another state or district?

Call Lori Penwell with Child Find at Mapleton Public Schools at 303.853.1130 or email her at PenwellL@mapleton.us Para Español: Emily Piper Allen 303.853.1106 o PiperE@mapleton.us.