



## EDUCATION

Grandfamilies and kinship caregivers who are raising children that have experienced childhood trauma from drug and alcohol exposure to abandonment and neglect can get early intervention. This can be beneficial by not only identifying problems early on but also offering support for you and your grandchild or kin as the child progresses through school later. For more information, contact your local Early Childhood Programs located in your school district. Grandfamily and kinship caregivers often automatically qualify for services when space is available.

Also check out the Center for Disease Control for information on Developmental Milestones at: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>

### **Universal Preschool Colorado**

Website: <https://cdec.colorado.gov/universal-preschool-colorado-o>

- Universal Preschool (UPK) Colorado ensures that every child in the year before they are eligible for kindergarten is eligible for half-day (15 hours), state-funded, voluntary preschool beginning in the of the school year. Three-year-olds with qualifying factors are eligible for part-time (10 hours) preschool programming. UPK Colorado allows families to choose the right setting for their child, whether it is in a licensed community-based, school-based, or home-based preschool setting.

### **Colorado Preschool Program (CPP)**

Website: <http://www.edc.state.co.us/cpp>

- The Colorado Preschool Program is a state-funded early childhood education program administered by the Colorado Department of Education. Children who are eligible for CPP can attend half-day or full-day preschool or full-day kindergarten at a reduced cost.

### **Early Intervention Colorado**

Website: <https://cdec.colorado.gov/universal-preschool-colorado-o>

- The Early Intervention Colorado program provides developmental support and services to families with children, birth through 2 years of age, who have developmental needs. The EI Colorado program provides services to help families support the developmental needs of their children.

### **Head Start/Early Head Start Program**

Website: <https://cdec.colorado.gov/head-start/early-head-start>

- Head Start promotes school readiness for children from low-income families. From birth to age five, Head Start provides children with a learning environment that enhances their cognitive, social, and emotional development.

### School Enrollment

- Problems can arise if you do not have a legal relationship with the child, such as, Guardianship/Allocation of Parental Responsibilities (APR)/Adoption or child welfare involvement.
- A temporary document “Delegation of Power by Parent or Guardian Pursuant to 15-14-105 C.R.S.” can be useful in giving you permission to care for the child’s immediate needs. The document is signed and notarized by the parent who currently has custody of the child. It is good for one year and revocable at any time. This form can be found on our website at <https://grandfamilycoalition.org/gfc-library/> or by downloading the form [HERE](#).
- This form does not remove the parent’s legal guardianship or allow changes to the parent’s guardianship or rights.
- If other documents are needed, such as a birth certificate, immunization records, or other documents needed for enrollment, contact your local school district’s McKenny Vento Liaison. Refer to this list of liaisons to find the liaison in your district.  
<https://www.cde.state.co.us/studentsupport/mvliaisons>

### Other Guidelines for Guardians:

#### Colorado Early Learning and Development Guidelines

Website:

[https://www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com/OEC\\_Families?p=Family&s=Learning-and-Development-Guidelines&lang=en](https://www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com/OEC_Families?p=Family&s=Learning-and-Development-Guidelines&lang=en)

- The Early Learning and Development Guidelines describe the path of a child’s learning and development from birth to 8 years old.

#### Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)

Website: <https://parentpossible.org/hippy/>

- Free voluntary school readiness program that helps you prepare your 3- to 5-year-old children for success.

#### Special Education Programs (IEP)

Website: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/parent-faq>

- If you have a child with special needs or learning disabilities, be sure to seek assistance with requesting an Individual Education Plan and the school’s legal obligation to provide that service. GFC has a resource of advocates upon your request. Also refer to the “IDAEA The Everyday Guide to Special Education Law” by Randy Chapman, Esq. A handbook for parents, teachers, and other Professionals.
- KisaHealth also offers information about Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to help guide you on how to ask for an IEP, what to expect, and who is involved. Read more at: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/iep.html>