

FEBRUARY 20, 2019

# Child Care and Preschool: Overview of Programs

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PRESENTED TO:

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on  
Education Finance  
Hon. Kevin McCarty, Chair

Assembly Education Committee  
Hon. Patrick O'Donnell, Chair



LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

# California Subsidizes Many Child Care and Preschool Programs

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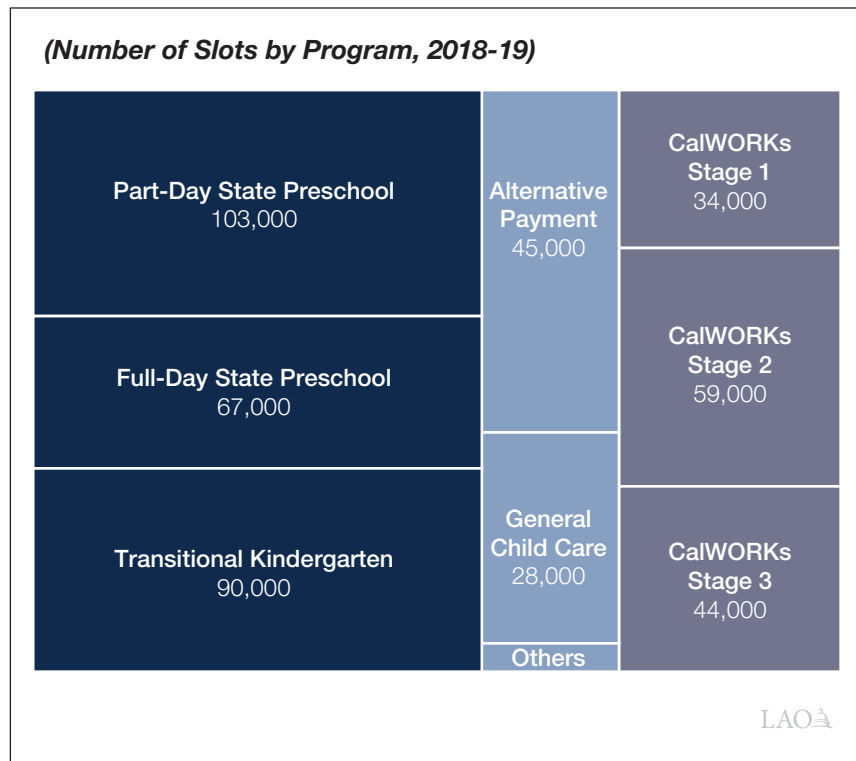
<b>Program</b>	<b>Key Eligibility Requirements</b>
CalWORKs Child Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family is low income.</li><li>• Parent(s) work or are in school.</li><li>• Child is under age 13.</li><li>• Slots are available for all eligible children.</li></ul>
Alternative Payment and General Child Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family is low income.</li><li>• Parent(s) work or are in school.</li><li>• Child is under age 13.</li><li>• Slots are limited based on annual budget appropriation.</li></ul>
State Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family is low income.</li><li>• Child is age 3 or 4.</li><li>• If parent(s) work or are in school, child is eligible for full-day program.</li><li>• Slots are limited based on annual budget appropriation.</li></ul>
Transitional Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child is age 4 with a birthday between September 2 and December 2.</li><li>• Slots are available for all eligible children.</li><li>• Program has no income or work requirement.</li></ul>

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# California Serves About 470,000 Children Through These Programs

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# A Closer Look at Preschool Programs in California

	California State Preschool	Contract or Voucher Programs <sup>a</sup>	Transitional Kindergarten	Head Start
<b>Eligibility Criteria:</b>				
Family income eligibility cap <sup>b</sup>	70 percent of state median income.	70 percent of state median income.	None.	100 percent of federal poverty level.
Income cap for family of three (2018 -19)	\$54,027	\$54,027	N/A	\$21,330
Work requirement	Yes for full-day program.	Yes.	No.	No.
Age requirement	3-year old and 4-year old.	Under age 13.	4-year olds with birthdays between September 1 and December 1.	Under age 5.
Approximate number of 3-year old and 4-year olds served (2018-19)	169,000 <sup>c</sup>	49,000	90,000	69,000 <sup>c</sup>
<b>Program Criteria:</b>				
Academic content standards	Developmentally appropriate activities designed to facilitate transition to kindergarten.	None for voucher programs. Contract programs same as State Preschool.	Locally developed, modified kindergarten curriculum.	The Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.
Duration	At least 6.5 hours per day, 250 days per year for full-day program. At least three hours per day, 175 days per year for part-day program.	Varies based on parents' work schedules.	Must operate no fewer than 180 days per year. Hours per day determined by district.	Determined by local provider.
<sup>a</sup> Includes the CalWORKs child care, Alternative Payment, and General Child Care programs. Programs are offered to children birth through 12 years of age. <sup>b</sup> Reflects cap for 2018-19. Beginning in 2019-20, cap set to increase to 85 percent of state median income. <sup>c</sup> May count children dually enrolled in State Preschool and Head Start.				



## More Than Half of Low-Income Four-Year Olds Are Served in a State-Funded Program

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