ABOUT THE PROGRAM

At the Early Childhood Education Program, we want every child to get a great start in life.

The Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP) provides full time early care and education for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers at five centers in Berkeley and Albany. We work in partnership with the family to support all aspects of a child’s growth within an atmosphere of respect. Our staff of highly trained educators give parents peace of mind. Teachers pay close attention to each child's unique needs, and tailor activities to spark their natural curiosity.

At each of our centers, children learn through play. Sandboxes, play structures, indoor and outdoor activity stations, art supplies, and gardens — all are carefully designed to inspire creativity, instill self-confidence, and give UC Berkeley's youngest students the foundation for a successful life.

APPLICATION

Applications are accepted year-round, and early applications are advisable. The acceptance process begins in February for summer and fall spaces. Most children will begin school at the start of the fall semester in mid-August, when most spaces are available. Spaces will be filled year-round as they become available.

Applications are available at the ECEP office, 2339 Haste St., or online at ece.berkeley.edu.

SCHEDULE

ECEP centers operate Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The four centers in Berkeley are open year-round, and closed for two weeks mid-summer. The center in Albany is closed for the summer. All centers are closed during UC staff holidays, winter break, and spring break.

ELIGIBILITY

ECEP serves children of UC Berkeley students, faculty, and staff, as well as community members. We have more classrooms than ever before and all parents who are interested are encouraged to apply. Children must be a minimum of 3 months old, and not yet eligible for kindergarten in the August of the year they plan to enroll.

FEE SCHEDULE 2015-16 AND SUBSIDIES

Infant Classrooms.................................................................$2,125/month
Toddler Classrooms..........................................................$1,925/month
Preschool Classrooms......................................................$1,600/month

As one of the great public universities, UC Berkeley values access to education as part of its mission. UC Berkeley student parents and staff may be eligible for fee subsidies, based on family gross income level, adjusted for family size, and need for care as determined by the California State Department of Education.

MEALS

Healthy breakfasts, hot lunches, and snacks are provided at all centers.

RESEARCH

While the children learn through play, we learn from them. Researchers use the classrooms as a living laboratory, where they can gain insights into the way children learn and grow best. In turn, the teachers at the centers are able to implement these innovative, best practices into the daily lives of the children. Children (and their families) enrolled in ECEP may be asked to participate in research programs administered by UC Berkeley.

ECEP CENTERS

We believe all aspects of child development are integrated, so we’ve adapted our physical environment to maximize healthy physical development, learning, and personal growth. All our centers have large fresh air spaces, outdoor play structures, and a wide variety of age-appropriate, developmental play areas. Our website details the age groups served at each center, as well as the unique attributes of each location.

HASTE STREET CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
2339 Haste St., Berkeley

HAROLD E. JONES CHILD STUDY CENTER
2425 Atherton St., Berkeley

CLARK KERR CAMPUS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
2900 Dwight Way, Bldg. 5, Berkeley
2601 Warring St., Bldg. 15, Berkeley

UNIVERSITY VILLAGE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN ALBANY (UVA)
1123 Jackson St., Albany

DWIGHT WAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
2427 Dwight Way, Berkeley

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