

FIND QUALITY CHILD CARE

Colorado Shines rates the quality of early learning programs and connects you with quality child care. Visit www.coloradoshines.com to search for programs and information such as location, hours, licensing history, and quality rating.

Child Care Resource & Referral agencies connect you with child care programs specific to your needs, local resources, and provide tips for finding child care. Call 877-338-2273 to speak to a referral specialist.

The Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) provides assistance to families who are working, searching for employment or are in job training, and families enrolled in the Colorado Works Program who need child care services to support their efforts toward self-sufficiency. Contact your county's department of human or social services for more information.

Head Start and Early Head Start promote the school-readiness of young children from low-income families. They support the mental, social, and emotional development of children from birth to age 5, and can provide your family with health, nutrition, and other services. Find a program at <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices>.



**COLORADO
SHINES**
START EARLY
START STRONG
QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

www.coloradoshines.com



Colorado PEAK provides
fast and easy access to benefits.
Online. Anytime.

Visit today to learn if you are eligible for programs or to apply for and manage your benefits online.

Colorado.gov/PEAK

- Cash Assistance (TANF)
- Child Care Assistance (CCCAP)
- Early Intervention Colorado (EI)
- Food Assistance (SNAP)
- Head Start
- Healthy Steps
- Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)
- Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)
- Parents as Teachers (PAT)
- Preschool Special Education
- School Nutrition Programs
- Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- SafeCare Colorado



COLORADO
Office of Early Childhood
Department of Human Services

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES & YOUNG CHILDREN

Helping your family find success and supporting the early learning and development of your children.



COLORADO'S OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Colorado Office of Early Childhood provides collaborative leadership to align resources for children, families and early childhood professionals to best prepare Coloradans for future success through access to coordinated and quality early childhood programs and family supports. The Office works to ensure all children are valued, healthy and thriving.

Learn more about our programs and services:
1-800-799-5876
www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com

Notes or contact information:

SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

Colorado's Early Learning and Development Guidelines describe the path of a child's learning and development from birth to 8 years old, and help you play an important part in giving your children a strong start through tips on learning, health and development. Begin using the guidelines today at www.earlylearningco.org.

IDENTIFY DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS & PROGRAMS TO HELP

Child Find (*Ages Birth - 5 Years*)

If a young child is not meeting typical developmental milestones, child find teams will evaluate how the child plays, learns, speaks, behaves and moves to determine if there is a significant delay or if there is a need for early intervention or special education services. Evaluations conducted by Child Find teams are at no cost to parents. Learn more at www.cde.state.co.us/early/childfind.

Early Intervention (EI) Colorado (*Ages Birth - 2 Years*)

The EI Colorado program provides developmental supports and services to families with infants and toddlers who have developmental needs. Call 1-888-777-4041 or visit www.eicolorado.org to request an evaluation and/or assessment and to determine if your child is eligible for EI.

Preschool Special Education (*Ages 3-4 Years*)

Preschool special education is a program for children who meet eligibility criteria for special education and are experiencing challenges in their learning and development. Eligible children are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Learn more at www.cde.state.co.us/early/preschoolspecialed.



CREATE A SAFE, STABLE & NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

Family Support Programs meet the needs of both the child and the family. These programs:

- Provide expectant parents and families necessary resources and skills to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.
- Promote safe, stable and nurturing environments allowing children and families to reach their full potential.
- Help families achieve their goals, reduce stress and provide referrals to other services such as child care assistance or social-emotional supports.

Learn more at www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com.

Colorado Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH)

Specialists seek to create nurturing environments and relationships that encourage mental health and well-being among children, families and early childhood professionals. ECMH Specialists is a free and voluntary program for parents, guardians and child care providers. Learn more about statewide social-emotional and behavioral programs and policies at www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com.

The **Colorado Coalition for the Homeless** moves Coloradans into safe homes, keeps families together, and provides critical health care and support services for people experiencing homelessness. Call 303-312-9700 or visit www.coloradocoalition.org for family support services.