

## Teacher Performance Expectations

### **Educational Specialist: Early Childhood Special Education Preliminary Credential Program**

#### ***The California Standards for the Teaching Profession:***

Standard 1: Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning\*

Standard 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning

Standard 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning

Standard 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students

Standard 5: Assessing Students for Learning

Standard 6: Developing as a Professional Educator

*\*in the Early Childhood Special Education context, “students” is understood to refer to “young children,” from **birth through kindergarten: Infant, Toddlers, Preschoolers and Kindergarteners***

#### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting Young Children in Learning**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate applied knowledge of typical and atypical child development when planning an individualized program for young children in the ECE special education setting.
2. Demonstrate applied knowledge of young children's' cultural and linguistic background, socioeconomic status, prior experiences, interests, social-emotional learning needs, and developmental learning needs within instructional planning, instructional and intervention activities.
3. Demonstrate understanding of young children's strengths and challenges across developmental (i.e., language and communication, social-emotional, cognition, adaptive/self-help, and motor) and curricular domains to support young children's access to the curriculum, provide appropriate learning opportunities and experiences, and facilitate young children's ability to participate effectively in instruction and intervention activities.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of children's language development across disabilities and the life span including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge and skills.
5. Communicate effectively and in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner with families and other service providers to facilitate and strengthen ongoing partnerships and collaborations that can support young children's learning goals and outcomes.
6. Promote the child's development across all developmental and curricular domains by observing, interpreting, monitoring, scaffolding, and responding intentionally to the child's behavior and interactions within instructional and other learning opportunities.
7. Implement, monitor, and adapt instruction and intervention activities to facilitate young children's learning and progress in an ongoing, iterative manner in order to maximize young children's learning and outcomes.

8. Understand the unique care, development, and learning needs of infants and toddlers and how to support their growth, development, and learning within the early childhood special education setting.
9. Provide a supportive learning environment for students' first and/or second language acquisition by using research-based instructional approaches.
10. Monitor student learning and adjust instruction while teaching so that students continue to be actively engaged in learning.
11. Facilitate the continuation of young children's learning progress across multiple contexts and transitions including a variety of environments e.g., (home, school, community, hospital), and people (e.g., peers, service providers, family, community).

**TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Young Children's Learning**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Facilitate positive learning experiences during daily routines and activities for children with disabilities in a wide range of environments (e.g. home-based services, community programs, school-based programs).
2. Promote children's access, learning and participation in a variety of environments using a wide range of co-teaching and collaborative consultation models of support that are strengths- based, family-centered, and culturally and linguistically responsive.
3. Organize space, time, and materials in consideration of all children's unique strengths and learning needs within safe, natural, and structured environments, including modifying and adapting the physical, social, and/or temporal environment(s) to promote each child's participation in accessible learning experiences.
4. Create an environment that promotes positive child behavior and participation through the use of principles of positive behavior support.
5. Identify, acquire, and implement assistive technology for individual children and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) for all children, including those with low-incidence disabilities, physical/orthopedic, and other health impaired, to promote access, learning, and participation across learning environments, including using augmentative and alternative strategies and interventions for the development of communication and social skills.
6. Create and foster inclusive environments that provide opportunities for all children to learn across the developmental domains (i.e., cognitive, social-emotional, language and communication, motor, self-help/adaptive) and curricular domains.

**TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Young Children's Learning**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the Early Start Personnel Manual, Infant/Toddler Learning and Developmental Foundations, Preschool Learning Foundations,

and state-adopted Kindergarten Student Standards, including the principles of Universal Design for learning.

2. Demonstrate sufficient discipline-based knowledge, as applicable in the early childhood special education setting, to design effective learning sequences focused on teaching content to young children
3. Describe and implement the principles of effective instruction and facilitation in each content domain when planning curriculum and lesson plans within the early childhood special education context.
4. Identify key content appropriate for young children as identified in the California Infant/Toddler and *Preschool Learning Foundations* for planning developmentally appropriate curriculum and learning activities for young children in the special education setting.
5. Use knowledge about students and learning goals to organize the curriculum to facilitate student understanding of subject matters, and make accommodations and/or modification as needed to promote student access to the curriculum, as appropriate within the early childhood special education context.
6. Demonstrate appropriate content pedagogy for key subject and skill areas in the early childhood curriculum.
7. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of commonly-used early childhood curricula and approaches, including their alignment to the California Infant/Toddler and Preschool Learning Foundations and the principles put forth in the California Early Learning and Development System-based curriculum from the California Department of Education.
8. Individually and through consultation and collaboration with other educators, plan for effective content instruction appropriate for young children in the special education setting and provide multiple ways for young learners to demonstrate their learning development.
9. Adapt the content of the curriculum, organization, and planning to support the acquisition and use of academic language within developmentally-appropriate content-focused learning activities to promote the knowledge of all students in the early childhood special education setting.

**TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Intervention and Designing Learning Experiences for All Young Children**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of typical child development (birth through Kindergarten) as well as atypical development associated with disabilities, risk conditions,

and protective factors (e.g. attachment, temperament) to inform learning experiences for all children in the early childhood special education setting.

2. Apply knowledge of the Infant/Toddler Learning and Development Foundations, Preschool Learning Foundations, California Preschool Curriculum Frameworks, and state-adopted student standards for Kindergarten, as well as principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), to effectively plan and design learning experiences for all children that incorporate recommended, evidence-based practices.
3. Apply knowledge of early development (birth through Kindergarten) when identifying and selecting developmentally appropriate strategies, culturally and linguistically relevant and appropriate materials, and designing effective sequencing interventions to engage children in learning across developmental and curricular domains.
4. Use and adapt resources, instructional materials, and a range of technology, including assistive technology, to facilitate students' equitable access to the curriculum.
5. Identify each child's strengths, preferences, and interests in collaboration with families to engage the child in active learning within and across routines, activities, and environments.
6. Gather and use evaluation and assessment data on an ongoing basis to inform learning experiences for young children with disabilities, including children with low incidence, physical/orthopedic disabilities, and other health impaired, and young children who are dual language learners.
7. Use systematic and consistent instructional and intervention strategies (e.g., peer-mediated interventions, positive behavior support, explicit feedback and consequences, scaffolding) to promote child engagement and support positive learning experiences across all contexts.
8. Establishing developmentally and functionally appropriate outcomes and goals for young children in collaboration with team members, including families.
9. Collaboratively create and implement instruction and intervention activities based on individualized learning goals and outcomes for children and families that support access, learning, and participation across developmental and curricular domains.
10. Embed individualized learning goals and outcomes into instructional, intervention, and play activities within different settings (e.g., hospitals, child care centers, school, other community settings, homes) and across developmental and curricular domains.
11. Implement services described in the IFSP/IEP (i.e., following the plan for the frequency, intensity, and duration of instruction and intervention) to achieve the child's outcomes or goals across learning experiences.
12. Provide instructional and intervention support for young children with disabilities who are dual language learners to assist them in learning English, while continuing to develop skills through the use of their home language.

13. Use coaching and consultation strategies with families and other professionals to facilitate positive adult-child interaction, instruction and interventions that promote child learning and development across learning experiences.

**TPE 5: Assessing Young Children's Learning and Development**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of age and developmentally appropriate purposes, characteristics, and uses of different types of assessment (e.g., authentic, play-based, dynamic, functional behavior assessment, family interviews, diagnostic, progress-monitoring, observational, and performance).
2. Choose assessment procedures that will provide appropriate and accurate information to effectively guide the development of individualized goals, identify desired and child and family outcomes, and inform instruction and intervention activities.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of evidence-and standards-based practices in designing and conducting evaluations and assessments, including selecting and using age, developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate assessments of young children whose cultural, ethnic, gender, or linguistic differences may potentially be confused with manifestations of a disability.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
5. Modify assessment procedures as acceptable within the normative parameters of the particular assessment to accommodate or compensate for the impact of the child' disability onthe child's ability to perform on the assessment as designed.
6. Use ongoing assessment data from a variety of sources and settings (e.g., information from children's' families/caregivers, records from other service providers progress monitoring, and reports from IFSP/ IEP team members) to establish meaningful, individualized learning goals and intervention activities.
7. Interpret English learners' assessment data to identify their level of proficiency in English as well as in their primary language, as applicable, and use this information in planning instruction.
8. Communicate and use assessment results accurately and effectively so that they are understandable and useful to families and other service providers.

**TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator**

Elements: Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical and contemporary theoretical, philosophical, legal, and empirical influences underlying evidence-based practices in the field of Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education and related fields, and uses this knowledge to shape his or her practice with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, families, administrators, community organizations and agencies.
2. Develop and implement policies, structures, and practices that promote shared decision making with other service providers and families.
3. Hold and/or participate effectively in IFSP/IEP meetings according to the guidelines established by IDEA and the California Education Code.
4. Develop and implement effective transitional plans to support the ongoing learning and development of children entering different learning settings (e.g., home-based services to preschool, preschool to kindergarten).
5. Promote efficient and coordinated service delivery for children and families by creating and supporting the conditions for service providers from multiple disciplines and the family to work together as a team.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of professional standards and all applicable laws and regulations governing service provision for children with disabilities from birth to kindergarten and their families.
7. Effectively articulate the rationale for instruction and intervention plans through culturally- and linguistically-appropriate verbal and written communications to and with family members, other service providers, administration, and other stakeholders.
8. Facilitate effective collaborative transitions between the stages of schooling and educational settings (e.g., infant/toddler to preschool, preschool to kindergarten, kindergarten to elementary).
9. Demonstrate the ability to self-reflect, self-evaluate, and professionally respond to feedback from family members, other service providers, administration, supervisors, and stakeholders.
10. Demonstrates characteristics of a life-long learner and teacher leader in a variety of ways such as, for example, seeking out and participating in professional development opportunities, initiating ongoing connections with families and community organizations, or choosing to affiliate with professional organizations related to the field.
11. Demonstrate the ability to co-plan and co-teach with teachers and other adults in the ECE setting.
12. Demonstrate how to organize and supervise the work of other adults in the early childhood classroom.
13. Provide ongoing guidance and feedback through coaching and modeling for paraprofessionals supporting the individualized instruction and intervention activities of

children with disabilities, including those with low incidence disabilities, and young children with disabilities who are also dual language learners.

14. Demonstrate how to provide constructive performance feedback to adults, as well as to communicate effectively with staff being supervised and with one's own supervisors.
15. Identify and explain the key differences between mentoring, coaching, and supervision/supervisory processes in a professional development context within the early childhood setting.
16. Identify, explain, and demonstrate knowledge and skills relating to effective on the job mentoring (e.g., building a relationship of mutual trust and confidence with the mentee; identifying goals and specific knowledge/skills areas for mentoring outcomes; demonstrating and encouraging and supporting reflective practice; maintaining confidentiality of personal information; managing practical arrangements for mentoring time and follow up; active listening skills; effective questioning skills; and non-judgmental approaches to helping the mentee grow and develop in the profession).
17. Identify, explain, and demonstrate knowledge and skills relating to effective on the job coaching (e.g., building a relationship of mutual trust and confidence; helping the person being coached to identify his/her own learning and improvement goals and supporting the attainment of those goals; a genuine desire and interest in helping the person being coached; helping the person being coached to develop his/her own solutions through asking appropriate questions and stimulating further thinking about the issues; avoiding making assumptions about the person being coached and/or his/her approaches to addressing improvement issues and goals; demonstrating empathy, emotional intelligence, active listening skills, and effective communication skills; maintaining confidentiality as appropriate).
18. Explain how to identify information about program and personnel effectiveness, and how to communicate this information to one's supervisors.