



CENTRAL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Education Department
4605 North Polk Avenue · Fresno, CA 93722
Phone: (559) 274-4700 · Fax: (559) 271-7211

Andrea Valadez-Administrator
Shant Avakian- Program Specialist
Monica Peterson- Program Specialist
Jodie Wiens-Program Specialist
Mary Oates-Program Specialist
Janene Armas-Health Coordinator
Elizabeth Echeveste, Supervisor of
Support Services
April Lee-Support Services Supervisor
Nicholas Diaz- Administrative Assistant
Laura Powell -Account Clerk III
Tina Bruno- Clerical Assistant II

Inclusion Preschool Cover Letter

2019-2020 School Year

Dear Interested Parents,

The Central Unified School District is proud to offer an inclusion preschool program. Space is limited and students are selected based on age-appropriate language, social and behavioral skills. Applications are available on the Central Unified School District website (under preschool), or in room 12 at the district office. Applications can be submitted in person to room 12, faxed to (559) 271-7211, or mailed to the special education department at the address listed at the end of this letter.

What is Inclusion Preschool?

The Central Unified School District provides preschool services to students with significant disabilities. Research shows that children with disabilities perform best when educated together with non-disabled children. Therefore, the Central Unified School District searches each year for non-disabled children to serve as age-appropriate role models for our children with disabilities. If accepted into this preschool class, your child will have the opportunity to meet and interact with a diverse group of children. In addition, your child will have the benefit of exposure to developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum and activities. However, it is important that you understand that your child will be enrolled in a classroom with other children who will have limited language, motor, and/or social skills.

Where is the class located?

This preschool program is located at Roosevelt Elementary School (2600 N. Garfield, Fresno, CA)

What are the hours of the program?

There will be an AM and a PM class option for 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds. The AM classes operate from 9:00am-12:00pm and the PM classes operate from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Although you are welcome to request an AM or PM program, effort is made to ensure that classes are balanced by gender, disability, and age. Therefore, the district will make the final decision regarding AM or PM placement.

What ages are accepted?

For consideration of placement in the 3 year old class, students must turn 3 years of age on or before 9/1/2019. For consideration of placement in the 4 year old class, students must turn 4 years of age on or before 12/2/2019.



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How large is the class?

Our classes typically start out small in August and reach full capacity by April or May. It is possible that your child may have as few as 8 classmates in the fall and as many as 15 by spring.

How are inclusion children selected?

Inclusion children must be residents of the district, in good health, and exhibit age-appropriate language, behavior, social, and adaptive skills. Because we receive many more applications than space allows, applicants that meet this criteria will be selected by lottery.

How will my child get to and from school?

Inclusion students must be transported to and from school by their parents or care provider.

How do you handle misbehavior?

Misbehavior is a normal part of childhood development. However, for our children with disabilities, it can be an even greater challenge. Imagine not having the language skills necessary to express yourself and needing to resort to a physical act in order to communicate. Therefore, misbehavior is managed differently for different children. Depending on the child's developmental level, we may use positive redirection, verbal requests to stop or start a behavior, parent contact, loss of rewards or privileges, or reflection time.

What if the program isn't working for my child?

You are welcome to remove your child from the preschool program at any time. In addition, the Central Unified School district reserves the right to revoke your child's participation at any time. Regular attendance is required and is limited to no more than ten absences per school year. On the eleventh day of absence, your child will be placed on a waiting list for re-enrollment.

If you have additional questions about the application process or our program, please contact Monica Peterson at 274-4700 x 63149. We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

Monica Peterson
Preschool Program Specialist

Mail to: Attn: Monica Peterson, Room 12
4605 N. Polk Avenue, Fresno, CA 93722