

ATTACHMENT 3

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYM LIST

CHILD CARE STUDY 2022

GLOSSARY

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)

While the term Early childhood care and education (ECCE) is used to encompass all forms of care for children 0-13, there are significant differences in the types, goals, governing policies, and funding structures connected to different forms of care. The terms “preschool”, “daycare” or “child care” may be used interchangeably among parents but they are quite different. In comparison, afterschool and summer programs are rarely included in conversations about child care yet they are integral to any ECCE system.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION

	Child Care	Preschool	Afterschool/summer
Age of children	Birth to 5 or 6 (K)	3 – 5 years	5 or 6 (K) - 13 years
Hours of operation	Varies but mostly traditional Mon-Fri business days	Full day or half day programs	Before and after school, weekends, holidays and summers
Goal	Provide early learning to children and childfree time to parents	To prepare a child for Kindergarten	Provide a safe place with enriching activities to children childfree time to parents
Providers/ Location	Private center and family home settings	Private (center) and public school settings	Private (center and family home) and public school settings
Governing policies	Licensing and VQB5 quality standards apply to publicly funded and non-exempt providers	Dept of Education approved curriculum	Basic standards for publicly funded and licensed facilities. Voluntary standards for others.
Public Funding Structures	Subsidies, Headstart & Early Headstart	Subsidies, Virginia Preschool Initiative, Headstart	Subsidies, 21st Century Community Learning Centers program

Mixed Delivery

Since 2016, Virginia has been working toward a mixed-delivery system for providing high quality early learning experiences to all of Virginia's children. A mixed-delivery system model includes services offered collaboratively through a variety of programs and providers such as Head Start, licensed

private childcare, public schools, and community-based organizations and it is supported with a combination of public and private funding (National Education Association definition cited in Griffey, 2016).

Universal Pre-school

Universal Pre-K, also known as “preschool for all,” is a policy framework that gives all families with preschool-aged children the opportunity to voluntarily enroll their child in a publicly-funded pre-kindergarten care and education program in a state or community.

While implementation varies, state-funded pre-k consistently offer programs on a voluntary basis for children and families, unlike compulsory elementary, which is mandated by law. Variations include how states deal with the following pre-k implementation elements:

- age of children eligible for the service of preschool (usually three-, four-, or five-year-olds, but sometimes only four-year-olds),
- wrap-around services, including whether special supports such as home visiting, and playgroups are provided to support children from at-risk families,
- full-day versus part-day pre-k, and whether programs should be offered year-round or only during the school year,
- role of parents in paying for part of their child's pre-k tuition,
- quality requirements for state-funded programs, including requirements for teacher education and preparation, class size, teacher to child ratios, and the use of evidence-based curriculum
- Whether universal state-funded programs should be provided in the existing diverse delivery system for early childhood programs (including Headstart, public schools, non-profit and for-profit centers, programs hosted by churches that are non-religious, or in home settings such as regulated family day care).

Virginia Quality Birth to Five System (VQB5)

A measurement and improvement system that assesses education quality for children aged 0-5 on two levels: 1) teacher-child interactions using a trademarked Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) and 2) the use of an approved curriculum that aligns to Virginia’s Unified Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS). By fall 2023 all publicly funded programs will be required to participate in the VQB5 program. VDOE will provide support in accessing free or low cost approved curricula options to publicly-funded birth to five programs that do not have an approved curriculum in use during the 2021-2022 school years.

Licensed Care

The State Board of Education has authority for a set of standards for centers serving children under the age of 13 who are separated from their parents or guardians during a part of the day. The purposes of the standards are to ensure that the activities, services, and facilities of child day centers are conducive to the well-being and development of children; and to reduce health and safety risks in the care giving environment. There are two levels of legal child care offered in Virginia:

- Level 1: Regulated but unlicensed means a child care provider that is not licensed by the Department or is not approved (i) by a licensed family day system, (ii) under a local ordinance of the Code of Virginia, or (iii) by the federal government. Religiously exempt providers fall into these categories as do smaller family home providers who care for fewer than 4 children excluding their own. Most private after-school programs not connected to a school are also included. While religiously exempt providers are required to adhere to their own (looser) set of standards and programs connected to K-12 schools are bound by the same educational standards as the school district they belong to, other types of unlicensed care are less regulated.
- Level 2: Licensed care means a child care provider that is licensed by the Department or is approved (i) by a licensed family day system, (ii) under local ordinance in accordance with the Code of Virginia, or (iii) by the federal government.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACF	Administration for Children and Families
ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act
BIPOC	black or other people of color
CCSG	Child Care Study Group'
CFOCB	Caring for our Children Basics
CCDBG	Child Care and Development Block Grant
CLASS	Classroom Assessment Scoring System
DSS	Department of Social Services
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
HHS	Health and Human Services
NAEYC	National Association for the Education of Young Children
OST	Out of School Time

SACC School Age Child Care

21 CCLC 21st Century Community Learning Centers program

VDOE Virginia Department of Education

VDOE Virginia Department of Education

VKRP Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program

VPI Virginia Preschool Initiative