

Cozad Community Schools

Preschool Peer Model Selection Process

District Forms

- Preschool Peer Model Selection Process
- Preschool Peer Model Selection Criteria
- Preschool Peer Model Selection Flowchart
- Preschool Peer Model Eligibility Summary

Parent Forms

Initial Parent Packet

- Cover Letter to Parents for Preschool Peer Models
- Preschool Peer Model Guidelines and Selection Criteria
- Preschool Student Health History
- Cozad Elementary and CEEC Enrollment Information
- Developmental Profile 3 Parent/Caregiver Checklist

To be given after forms are returned, reviewed, and the recommendation is made by district team for Preschool Peer Model Enrollment

- Preschool Peer Model Parent Contract

Preschool Peer Model Selection Process

The Cozad Preschool Advisory Board will utilize a team approach in making a decision concerning admission of preschool peer models. The Preschool Advisory Board will consist of an early childhood specialist, speech language pathologist, school psychologist, and special education administrator. Prior to consideration, parents and/or caregiver will complete the Developmental Profile 3 (DP-3) to assess five developmental domains: physical, adaptive behavior, social-emotional, cognitive, and communication.

Children scoring a standard score of 85 or above will be considered for admission as a preschool peer model. Children scoring below 70, in 2 or more domains, will be referred for a special education evaluation.

The following steps must be completed prior to March 1st of the year you are seeking fall enrollment:

1. Parents request Preschool Peer Model admission by contacting the school.
2. The parents are given the Preschool Peer Model Packet with forms required by the district that must be completed prior to consideration for admission.
3. The parents
 - Complete the following:
 - **Preschool Health History**
 - **Cozad Elementary and CEEC Enrollment Information**
 - **Developmental Profile 3 Parent/Caregiver Checklist**
 - Submit the forms to Kristi Albrecht at the Cozad Early Education Center, 420 W 14th St., Cozad, NE 69130-1424.
4. Information submitted by the parents is reviewed by the Preschool Advisory Board.
 - All eligibility criteria must be met.
 - Children with a standard score of 85 or above will be **considered** for admission.
 - Children with a standard score of 70 or below in 2 or more domains will be referred for a special education evaluation.

Not all students meeting eligibility requirements will be selected, due to the high demand and limited number of openings available.

5. The District makes the decision to either:
 - Recommend admission as a peer model in the Cozad Early Education Center Preschool Program and provide parents with a **Preschool Peer Model Parent Contract**.

OR

 - Recommend further assessment to determine eligibility for Special Education services.

OR

 - Recommend an alternate preschool program in the community.
6. Additional documents must be completed and/or returned by **May 15th** to be eligible for fall enrollment.
 - Preschool Peer Model Parent Contract
 - Certified Birth Certificate
 - Current immunization records

Preschool Peer Model Selection Process Criteria

The Cozad Early Education Preschool program is designed to meet the needs of young children in our community at no cost to the families. Our program includes students who meet the State and Federal disability requirements and other students whose families apply to have them in the preschool program as peer models. The students selected as peer models should exhibit skills and behaviors that are typical for children of their age. Parents will be required to complete and return the required forms. Once the school has received this information, the Preschool Advisory Board will meet to determine eligibility and select peer models. The following criteria will be used in making the selection of peer models. All criteria are of equal value and are not listed in order of priority or importance.

1. Residency

- Child's family **must** reside in Cozad Community School District

2. Age of student

- Child cannot be school eligible or age 5 on or before July 31st
- Priority will be given to students that will be school eligible and enrolling the following school year or age 4 on or before July 31st
- Three year old children may be considered if openings remain

3. Completion of Required Information Prior to April 1st.

- Preschool Health History
- Cozad Elementary and CEEC Enrollment Information
- Developmental Profile 3

4. Gender

- Cozad Community Schools does not discriminate based on gender
- Efforts are made to have an equal number of males and females in the program

5. Ethnicity

- Cozad Community Schools does not discriminate based on ethnicity
- Efforts are made to select a preschool population representative of the ethnic makeup of the school district

6. Application Date

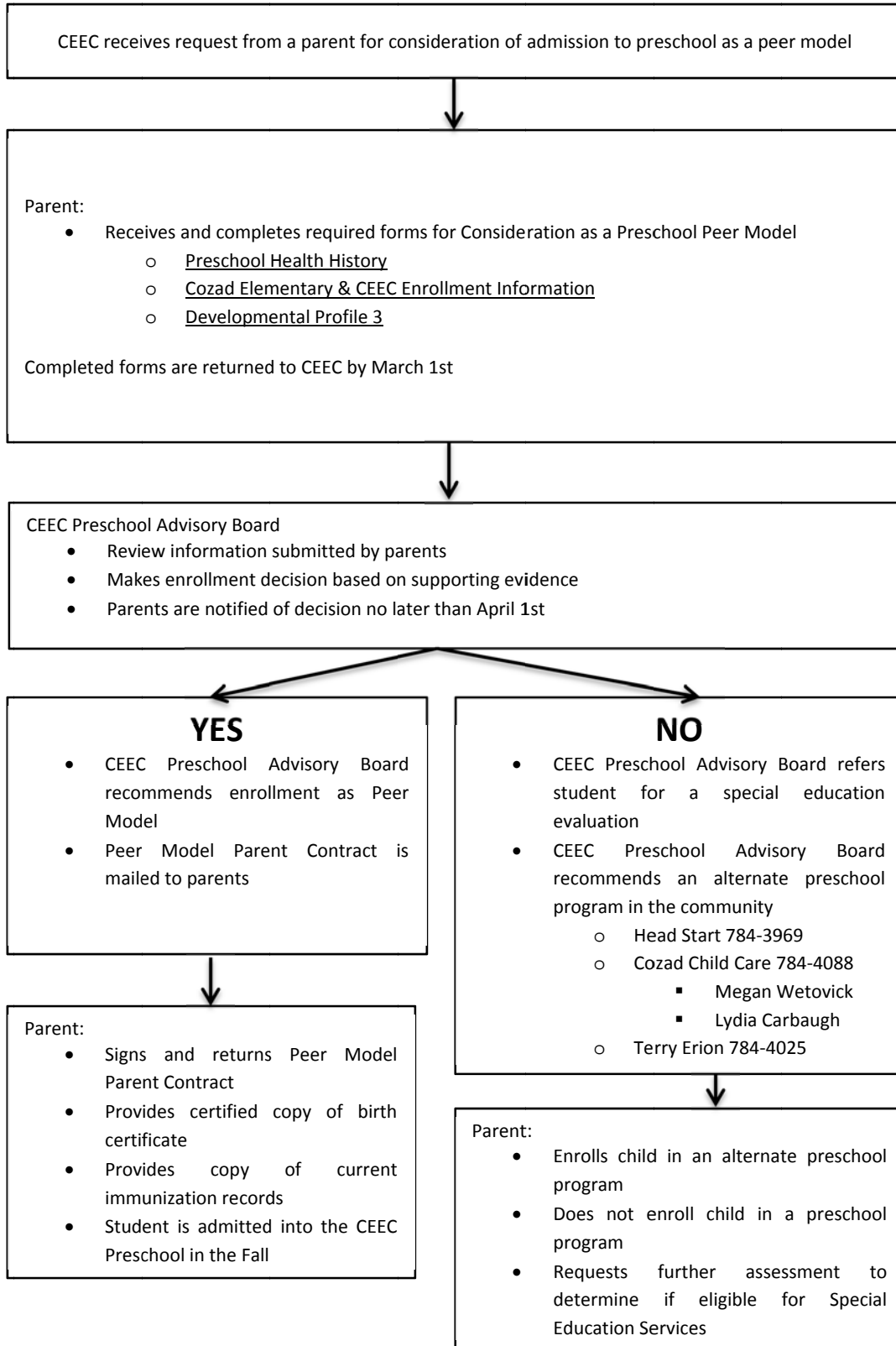
- Completion date of application will be considered

7. Other Relevant Information

- Siblings of previous peer models will be considered but are not guaranteed enrollment
- Personal or professional knowledge of the child and/or family will be considered

Parents will be notified of decision no later than April 1st

Preschool Peer Model Selection Flowchart



Preschool Peer Model Eligibility Summary

Directions: Please mark **YES** or **NO** to the following criteria. Provide a summary of the information obtained from: Preschool Health History, Preschool Developmental Checklist, Parent Questionnaire, and Information from Daycare Provider and/or Other Knowledgeable Individual.

Child's Name:			
Address:	Meets residency requirement	YES	NO
Birthdate:	IS NOT Kindergarten Eligible (5 on or before July 31st)	YES	NO
	Is or will be 4 years on or before July 31st	YES	NO
Forms Completed and Returned	Preschool Health History	YES	NO
	Cozad Elementary & CEEC Enrollment Information	YES	NO
	Developmental Profile 3	YES	NO

Summary of Information

Preschool Health History:

Developmental Profile 3:

Other Relevant Information:

Eligibility Statement:

- This child meets eligibility requirements as a preschool peer model.
- This child meets eligibility requirements, but will not be recommended as a peer model.
- This child does not meet all eligibility requirements as a preschool peer model, but will be recommended as a preschool peer model if openings are available.
- This child does not meet eligibility requirements and will not be recommended as a preschool peer model.

Team Signature	Date	Agreement	
		YES	NO
		YES	NO
		YES	NO
		YES	NO

Cozad Community Schools

Joel Applegate, Superintendent of Schools
1910 Meridian Avenue

Cozad, Nebraska 69130-1159

Phone (308) 784-2745 Fax (308) 784-2784

joel.applegate@cozadschools.net

William Beckenhauer.....High School Principal 308 784-2744
Brian Regelin.....Middle School Principal 308 784-2746
Dale Henderson.....Elementary Principal 308 784-3462
Corey Spotanski.....Activities Director 308 784-2744
Nancy Niles.....Special Education Director 308 784-3320

Board of Education

Ann Burkholder.....President
Scott Geiser.....Vice-President
Dennis Worrell.....Secretary
Dr. Pat Wetovick.....Member
Jeremy Geiger.....Member
John Peden.....Member

AdvancEd Certified

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in the Cozad Early Education Center Preschool. The mission of Cozad Community Schools is "Learning for All...Learning for Life." Learning begins at birth and continues throughout our life. It is the goal of the CEEC Preschool to enhance the learning of young children by providing a high quality preschool experience for young children in our community.

The CEEC Preschool is a center based preschool program within the Cozad Community School system designed to meet the needs of young children in our community at no cost to their families. Our program includes students who meet the State and Federal disability guidelines and other students whose families choose to enroll them in the program as peer models. These students should exhibit skills and behavior that are typical for children their age. Parents will be required to complete the enclosed forms and the Developmental Profile 3 to determine if their child will meet eligibility requirements. Students not meeting eligibility requirements or those who are not selected may be referred for further assessment to determine if they meet the criteria for having a disability or to another community preschool program. If a student is accepted into the program and later it is determined that they do not meet the criteria parents will be given the option of requesting an evaluation or removing their child from the program. It is not the intention of this program to compete with other early childhood programs such as Head Start, which is income based. If you believe your child may be eligible for Head Start you should explore that option first.

Due to the high interest in the program the Cozad Early Education Center Preschool Advisory Board has established eligibility guidelines and a selection process. Criteria for choosing peer models includes: residency, age of student, completion of required forms, and score obtained on the Developmental Profile 3, gender, ethnicity, application date, and other relevant information. Children that turn 5 on or before July 31st will not be considered for the CEEC preschool program since they are eligible to attend Kindergarten. The maximum number of students that the CEEC Preschool can accept is 20. Federal law requires schools to provide special education services to all children birth to 21 with verified disabilities. The number of openings available for peer models is dependent on the number of verified children requiring services.

Thank you again for your interest in our preschool program. We hope to hear from you soon. All forms must be returned to Kristi Albrecht at the Cozad Early Education Center, 420 W 14th St, Cozad, NE 69130-1424. The deadline for accepting applications for fall enrollment is March 1st. If you have questions about the preschool program, or if you would like to visit please call me at 308-784-3381. We always welcome visitors!

Sincerely,

Kristi Albrecht, Preschool Director

Cozad Early Education Center Preschool Guidelines

“The preschool and early years are crucial for children and parents. When children experience success in responsive, high quality programs, they learn essential skills and knowledge, and their parents learn to be confident partners with teachers and administrators.”

Right from the Start: the Report of the NASBE Task Force on Early Childhood Education

The Cozad Early Education Center Preschool uses the research-based “HighScope Curriculum” as well as the “Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines” to provide a highly effective preschool program for young children. Student progress is measured using the GOLD Teaching Strategies Assessment. This assessment measures progress in seven developmental domains: social/emotional, self-help/adaptive behavior, physical development, language development, cognitive development, literacy, and mathematics.

Research indicates that children, families, and communities will experience both short and long term benefits from participation in highly effective preschool programs. Our program is designed to benefit children, their families, and our community in the following ways:

Benefits for children:

- Allow children to develop at their own rates of learning
- Encourages social interactions
- Provides opportunities for decision making and problem solving
- Allows children to learn by doing and applying knowledge
- Respects and encourages children’s natural interests and abilities
- Develops a positive self-concept for learning
- Develops a strong language system as a foundation for learning
- Develops readiness skills that will help transition into kindergarten

Benefits for families:

- Provides comfort and assurance that your child is in a highly effective program
- Provides a stable environment with adults who will nurture and care for your child
- Provides a source of information about your child and information to assist you in meeting your child’s needs
- Provides the opportunity for you to be a partner in your child’s education

Benefits for community:

- Prepares young children to be successful in school and well-adjusted productive citizens
- Promotes interagency collaboration

The CEEC Preschool is a 4 day program that meets Monday through Thursday from 8:10-3:20, except on Wednesdays, students are dismissed at 2:30. The CEEC Preschool follows the Cozad Community School calendar. When school is not in session neither is preschool. There may also be a limited number of in-service days which we will not be in session. Parents will be notified in advance so alternative arrangements can be made.

PRESCHOOL STUDENT HEALTH HISTORY

Name _____ Birthdate _____ Birth Weight _____ lbs _____ oz

Allergies (please list) _____

Asthma _____ Ear Infections _____

Urinary Tract Infection _____ Nosebleeds _____

Chickenpox _____ Headaches _____

Physical Disability (explain) _____

Heart Murmur (include physical limitations) _____

Seizures (describe type and frequency) _____

Tubes in ears (past or present?) _____

Operations or broken bones _____

Hearing Loss (explain) _____ Hearing aid(s) _____

Does your child take medication? Please list name, dosage and reason _____

Use an inhaler for asthma? Please list name & dosage _____

Specific medical needs _____

Other pertinent medical information _____

Name of Eye Doctor _____ Town _____

Last Vision Exam _____ Age of glasses (if appropriate) _____

Name of Dentist _____ Town _____ Last dental exam _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete this form and return to the preschool as soon as possible.

Cozad Preschool Peer Model Parent Contract

_____ meets all eligibility requirements and has been selected as a CEEC Preschool Peer Model for the _____ school year. Students selected are expected to exhibit skills and behaviors typical for children their age as reported by parents on the Developmental Profile 3.

PARENTS UNDERSTAND

- If it is determined by our staff that your child does not exhibit age appropriate skills and/or behavior you will have the option of requesting an evaluation or removing your child from the program.
- If our family moves outside of the Cozad Community School District our child is no longer eligible to attend the CEEC Preschool Program.
- If our preschool enrollment numbers exceed 20, due to the number of verified students. Peer models may need to find an alternative program.
- If our family meets the eligibility guidelines for Head Start, we will pursue that option first and withdraw our application from the CEEC Preschool Program.
- Students and families are expected to attend preschool programs and family nights throughout the school year.
- Students are expected to attend on a regular basis. Excessive absenteeism will be grounds for removal from the CEEC Preschool Program.
- The Preschool Coordinator is required to conduct 2 home visits during each school year.
- Parents are expected to partner with the school by donating time, snacks, or other materials upon request.

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

This contract along with a certified copy of your child's birth certificate and current immunization records must be returned before your child will be admitted into the CEEC Preschool Program.