

California Preschool Development Grant Online Learning Pilot

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

? What is the purpose of the California Preschool Development Grant Online Learning Pilot?

This pilot offers online, mobile-friendly professional development courses for early learning professionals. These courses are designed to expand their knowledge and skills through practical strategies in a way that is easy to understand and access.

? What types of courses are offered through this program?

This program offers fully online self-paced modules and instructor-led courses.

? How much do courses cost through this program?

Courses are free to all eligible participants who register during the enrollment period.

? How many PD hours do I earn for each course or module?

One instructor-led course is worth 20 PD hours and 2.0 IACET Continuing Education Units (CEUs). One self-paced module is worth two (2) PD hours and 0.2 IACET CEUs. These are non-credit bearing CEUs. For transferability and acceptance at colleges and universities, contact your local agencies.

? Who is eligible to take a course?

Early childhood teachers, directors, and administrators who have direct access to classrooms with young children (birth through 5) are eligible to take courses through this program.

? How do I sign up for a course?

Eligible participants can learn more about our courses and enroll at www.californiapdg.org.

? What do I need to be able to take a course?

Course participants will need online access through either a desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile device. Courses are built to be mobile friendly to offer flexibility. The preferred browser to use for this platform is Chrome.

? What is the time commitment to complete an instructor-led course?

A participant must complete all assignments and activities in an instructor-led course within the course term (approximately nine weeks). These courses follow guided pacing, meaning that a participant has assignment due dates and can only move one cycle ahead in a course. Participants should expect to spend around 2.5 hours per week on the course.

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? What topics are covered in the courses?

Self-paced module topics include:

- *Preschool Growth and Development: Implementing a Small Group Investigation Based on Developmentally Appropriate Practices*
- *Infant/Toddler Social-Emotional Development: The Importance of Partnering with Parents*
- *Promoting Attachment with Young Infants*
- *Promoting Attachment with Mobile Infants and Toddlers*
- *Promoting Healthy Social-Emotional Development with Infants and Toddlers with Special Needs*
- *Supporting Self-Regulation in Infants*

The following instructor-led courses are offered:

- *Supporting Dual Language Learners*
- *Preschool Guidance and Behavior*
- *Supporting Inclusive Practice in Infant Toddler Programs*
- *The Building Blocks of Literacy*
- *Using Observation to Support Developmentally Appropriate Practice with Infants and Toddlers*
- *Language Development for Infants and Toddlers*
- *Designing Infant Toddler Learning Environments - offered in Spanish*
- *Preschool Language Development - offered in Spanish*

? What is the difference between an instructor-led course and a self-paced module?

An *instructor-led course* is an online course led by an instructor and requires completion of discussion forums, job-embedded assignments, and an assessment within a designated time frame over a span of nine weeks. A *self-paced module* is a two-hour online course that can be completed at any time and includes an assessment.

? How many courses can I take at a time?

Participants may take up to two instructor-led courses per term and as many of the six self-paced modules within the allowable time frame as they desire.

? What can I expect when taking an instructor-led course?

An instructor-led course is made up of an intro cycle, 5-7 cycles, and a mastery cycle. The participant will first take a pre-assessment to determine what background knowledge they already have, and 4-6 cycles depending on the course. Each cycle includes job-embedded practice and activities. Throughout the cycle, participants develop a plan, implement it with the children, discuss it with peers, and reflect on the outcomes. The instructor provides feedback with each assignment to guide the learning experience.

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? What is a job-embedded activity?

Instructor-led courses incorporate job-embedded activities that provide participants with the opportunity to try out the strategies they are learning. Participants will test out specific strategies with children and then reflect back on their experiences, both individually and with peers. These activities are tailored to be meaningful to the learner and offer practical ways to improve practice.

? Are courses offered in Spanish?

Yes, two instructor-led courses are available in Spanish: *Designing Infant Toddler Learning Environments* and *Preschool Language Development*. All content is delivered in Spanish with targeted support from a Spanish-speaking instructor. Participants can also choose to have the Flamingo Learning platform interface in Spanish for ease of use.

? Do courses count toward my stipend?

We recommend you check whether these courses fit the criteria for your specific county. All courses are aligned to the California ECE competencies and the online courses are funded by CDE.

? I don't have a registry number, how do I get one?

For information about the California Workforce Registry or to obtain a registry number, visit <https://www.caregistry.org/>.

? Will my completed courses be added to the California Workforce Registry?

Yes, both instructor-led and self-paced course users who receive Mastery on the course will be added to the registry for that course. A valid registry number must be entered in order to be input into the registry.

? How do I access my course?

Navigate to www.californiapdg.org and select "Register Now" if you have not yet enrolled in a course or "Log Into Courses" if you have already registered. You will create a user profile when you first register. You can also navigate straight to <https://platform.flamingolearning.com/user/login> if you have already registered. There, you will be prompted to enter your username and password.

? What do I do if I forget my username or password?

A participant's username is the email with which they initially registered. For a forgotten password, a new one can be created using the "Forgot Password" button. Please contact support@californiapdg.org or (650) 352-4614 for additional assistance in retrieving usernames and passwords.

? Who should I contact if I need technical help with my course or the Flamingo Platform?

Please contact support@californiapdg.org or (650) 352-4614 for technical assistance.