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June 24, 2026

Honorable Councilmembers  
Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee  
City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall  
Attention: Armando Bencomo

**RESPONSE TO COUNCIL FILE 26-0697, RELATIVE TO RECREATION AND PARKS'  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ( RFP) FOR LICENSED CHILD CARE SERVICES PROVIDERS  
FEES**

**BACKGROUND:**

At its meeting held on June 9, 2026, your Arts, Parks, Libraries, and Community Enrichment Committee considered the Board report, dated May 7, 2026, relative to authorizing the RAP to award contracts to TCCI, CDCLA, MAOF, PACE, and VOALA for the operation and maintenance of preschool programs at various RAP child care facilities; and, the approval of on-site facility signs for installation at South Park Recreation Center, Valley Plaza Recreation Center, and Van Ness Recreation Center. Approval of on-site facility signs for the remaining sites are pending Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners approval at a later date.

The Committee and RAP representatives discussed the rates and tuition fees to be charged by the service providers, and tuition assistance programs offered to low-income families. After discussion and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations contained in the Board report, as amended to instruct RAP to report back on the financial assistance and amount offered to low-income families

**SUMMARY:**

The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify and select qualified child care providers to operate certain childcare centers located on park property under the oversight of the RAP Childcare Section, required that the selected childcare provider offer eligible families a fair and equitable fee structure. The purpose is to ensure consistent understanding of how provider fees are determined and to document the basis for cost variations across contracted sites.

These external providers operate under a variety of subsidized child care contracts issued by state and federal agencies. Each contract type establishes specific eligibility requirements, reimbursement rates, and family fee guidelines. Because subsidy programs differ in structure and funding, the cost to families may vary from site to site. This report outlines the factors that influence those differences.



Fees for RFP providers are determined by the subsidy contract under which each provider operates. Key factors include:

- Contract Type — Different subsidy programs
  - California State Preschool Program (CSPP) - State (California Department of Education) funded preschool program that serves 3-4 year old children from income eligible families.
  - General Child Care and Development Program (CCTR) - State (California Department of Social Services) funded program that provides child care for eligible families, ages (birth to 12 years old).
  - Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally funded program that provides comprehensive early childhood services for (birth to 3 years old). This is a free program for families who meet federal eligibility requirements.
  - Head Start (HS) - is also a federally funded early childhood program, but it serves preschool-age children (3–5 years old). This is a free program for families who meet federal eligibility requirements.
  - Pathways Program - is a Resource & Referral (R&R) agency and child care assistance organization serving Los Angeles. Pathways LA helps low-income and vulnerable working families access high-quality child care, provides payment assistance, and supports child care providers with training and resources.
- Eligibility Requirements — Family income, household size, and employment status influence whether a family qualifies for free or reduced-cost care.
- Funding Source — State-funded programs may require family fees, while federally funded programs may offer services at no cost.

As a result, fee variations across RFP child care centers reflect the specific subsidy program requirements and contractual obligations governing each provider.(See Exhibit A). These contract types determine whether families receive free services, reduced-cost services, or sliding-scale fees based on the state and federal guidelines.

Families who do not meet the eligibility requirements for subsidized child care are responsible for paying full tuition rates established by each RFP provider. These tuition rates are set by the provider and may vary based on State or Federal funding and other in-kind donations and services.

Tuition-paying families are not subject to state-regulated sliding fee scales and instead pay the provider's published tuition schedule. Providers are required to make tuition information available to families and ensure transparency regarding costs, payment schedules, and any additional fees.

Exhibit B outlines the family income thresholds that establish eligibility for state-funded programs (CCTR and CSPP), federally funded programs (Early Head Start and Head Start), and only one (Children Development Consortium of Los Angeles Inc.) tuition-based program will offer enrollment for families who do not meet subsidy requirements.

RAP has the full authority to decide whether the tuition or fees charged at the RFP child care centers are affordable, fair, and accessible for the public. RAP also has the right to decide whether continuing to work with the RFP child care providers is in the CITY's best interest.

The RFP child care providers must submit a written request to RAP Staff if they want to raise tuition or fees. This request may be submitted once per year and must include a clear explanation



Exhibit A

Agency Name	CSPP Subsidized	CCTR	Early Headstart	Headstart	Pathways LA	Eligibility Based	Offer Free Program	Tuition-Based Program
Children Development Consortium of Los Angeles Inc (CDCLA)	X	X			X	X		X
Mexican American Foundation (MAOF)		X	X	X			X	
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE)		X	X	X			X	
The Children's Collective Inc (TCCI)	X		X	X			X	
Volunteers of America of Los Angeles (VOALA)	X		X	X		X	X	
California State Preschool Program (CSPP)								
General Child Care and Development Program (CCTR)								
Early Head Start (EHS) & Head Start (HS)								
Pathways LA								
CCTR Eligibility								

## Exhibit B

### 2026 FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR HEAD START PROGRAMS (effective 1/26/26)

Family Size	Income Eligible Monthly	Income Eligible Annual	*130% Monthly Income	*130% Annual Income
1	1,330	15,960	1,729	20,748
2	1,804.33	21,640	2,344.33	28,132
3	2,276.66	27,320	2,959.66	35,516
4	2,750	33,000	3,575	42,900
5	3,223.33	38,680	4,190.33	50,284
6	3,696.66	44,360	4,805.66	57,668
7	4,170	50,040	5,421	65,052
8	4,643.33	55,720	6,036.33	72,436

FOR FAMILIES/HOUSEHOLDS WITH MORE THAN 8 PERSONS, ADD \$5,680 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON.

**\*WAITING LIST MUST BE EXHAUSTED AND OVER INCOME WAIVER MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT**

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**Exhibit B**

**Child Development Consortium of Los Angeles, Inc.**

**2025-2026 Monthly Tuition  
Rates**

Toddlers - 24 months up to 36 months	Community Rate
5 days per week	\$1,379
4 days per week	\$1,243
3 days per week	\$930
2 days per week	\$620
Extra Days	\$82

Preschool - 3 years to Kindergarten	Community Rate
5 days per week	\$1,205
4 days per week	\$1,084
3 days per week	\$813
2 days per week	\$542
Extra Days	\$73



**Exhibit B**

**Age Eligibility**

**STATE PRESCHOOL**

4-Year-Old | Outside of the below windows, a TK age eligible child may be enrolled.

Dec 2, 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 1, 22
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3-Year-Old | Outside of the below windows, a child may be enrolled on or after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday

Dec 2, 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	June 23	July 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Dec 1, 23
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2-Year-Old | Based on chronological age. A child may be enrolled on or after their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

**Income Eligibility**

For State Programs CCTR & CSPP

Effective July 1, 2026			
Family Size	CDSS Programs 85% of SMI	State Preschool 100% of SMI	State Preschool 115% of SMI
1-2	7,119	8,376	9,632
3	8,054	9,476	10,897
4	9,636	11,337	13,038
5	11,178	13,151	15,124
6	12,720	14,965	17,210
7	13,009	15,305	17,601
8	13,298	15,645	17,992
9	13,587	15,985	18,383
10	13,876	16,325	18,774
11	14,166	16,665	19,165
12	14,455	17,006	19,556
<b>Other Qualifying Factors: CPS, At-Risk, Certain Governmental Programs &amp; Homeless. Also, for State Preschool child with</b>			



**disability or reside in approved neighborhood school boundary**

### **Age Definition for CSPP**

#### STATE PRESCHOOL

##### 4-Year-Old | Education Code 8205 (ac)

Children who will have their fourth birthday on or before December 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a CSPP, or a child whose fifth birthday occurs after September 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a CSPP and whose parent or guardian has opted to retain or enroll them in a CSPP.

##### 3-Year-Old | Education Code 8205 (aa)

Children who will have their third birthday on or before December 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a CSPP. Children who have their third birthday on or after December 2 of the fiscal year, may be enrolled in a CSPP on or after their third birthday.

##### 2-Year-Old | Education Code 8205 (ab)

Children who have had their second birthday and do not otherwise meet the definition of “3-year old children.”

### **Age Definition For CCTR**

Children are eligible for initial certification or recertification until their thirteenth birthday. Children with exceptional needs may be served to age twenty-one.