



NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
 Education & Care Department

The New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) has made changes for New Mexico PreK in School Year 2022-23. The changes outlined below were informed by feedback from listening sessions and site visits with superintendents and charter leaders, community-based and school based PreK administrators, and early childhood educators.



ECECD will continue its focus on ensuring quality programming to support positive outcomes for all NM PreK students. Additionally, ECECD is committed to reducing administrative burden and aligning and simplifying processes for all NM PreK programs.

NM PreK Requirements for School Year 2022-23	Changes from School Year 2021-22
<b>Curriculum, Planning, and Assessment</b>	
Programs will implement research-based curriculum that is aligned to the New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines.	No change
Teachers will complete the Early Childhood Observational Tool (ECOT) for each enrolled child at the beginning, middle, and end year to track their development across the seven domains of learning.	No change
PreK administrators will ensure weekly lesson plan include the key components outlined in the Lesson Plan Checklist.	Programs have been required to use the NM PreK Lesson Plan Template. Teachers now can use their own lesson plan template, but it must include key components outlined in the checklist. Teachers are welcome to continue using the NM PreK lesson plan template.
<b>Quality and Monitoring</b>	
Programs will meet the New Mexico PreK Program Standards	The NM PreK Standards which are nationally recognized and include the Essential Elements of Quality, are now aligned across all NM PreK settings. The system is now simplified by no longer requiring PreK programs to be FOCUS verified. ECECD's quality supports, technical assistance, and

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	monitoring will support programs in meeting or exceeding the NM PreK Program Standards.
<p>Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), an observational, research-based assessment of classroom quality will be conducted during the fall and spring by UNM ECSC staff. This research-based assessment measures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Instructional Support</li> <li>2. Emotional Support</li> <li>3. Classroom Organization</li> </ol>	The CLASS data will be shared with teachers, PreK administrators and program directors to support ongoing planning and professional development.
<b>Professional Development and Support</b>	
New administrators will participate in 19 hours of required professional development in Year 1 and 25 hours of required professional development in Year 2.	Training agenda was updated and changed annually to reflect training needs from prior program year.
<p>New teachers will participate in 32.5 hours of required professional development in Year 1 and 42.5 hours of required professional development in Year 2.</p> <p>These required trainings focus on enhancing instruction for dual language learners, improving teachers’ knowledge and skills in supporting early literacy (LETRS-EC), and enhancing social and emotional development.</p>	Teachers in year 3+ and EA/IAs will choose from a menu of professional development opportunities for a total of 24 hours annually.
Educational Assistants and Instructional Assistants must complete 24 hours of professional development annually.	Eliminated <u>required</u> professional development for Educational Assistants. ECECD will provide a list of recommended professional development opportunities.
Practice Based Coaching will be phased into all NM PreK community-based classrooms	Educational assistants will not participate in practice-based coaching.

**Questions?** Contact ECECD Director of Early Care, Education, and Nutrition

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