

SUMMIT PRE-K



SUMMIT COUNTY STRONG FUTURE INITIATIVE
ANNUAL REPORT
2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR



PROGRAM DETAILS

The Summit Pre-K Program (SPK) helps to make high quality preschool possible for all Summit County 4-year olds in the year before they enter Kindergarten. Approved by voters in 2018, SPK is a Summit County taxpayer funded initiative. The local council, [Early Childhood Options](#) (ECO), serves as the managing agency. A community advisory board provides guidance and direction in the implementation of SPK.

To offset the high cost of quality preschool, SPK provides monthly tuition credits to families who meet the criteria below. Tuition credits are given to assist families with the cost of preschool and are paid directly to the participating preschool program, child care center or family child care provider on behalf of the eligible child(ren). Tuition credits are administered on a sliding scale.

Tuition credit funding levels are based on:

- Gross Family Income
- Number of total children aged 0-3 enrolled in childcare
- [Colorado Shines](#) quality rating (only programs Level 2 or higher are eligible to participate)
- Enrollment in other programs such as [Colorado Child Care Assistance Program](#) (CCCAP), [Head Start](#) and/or [Colorado Preschool Program](#) (CPP)

SPK is funded by the County, the [Board of County Commissioners](#) (BOCC) is the oversight body. ECO manages the overall program. SPK funds a full-time Early Childhood Education Registrar position, housed at the [Summit School District](#), to coordinate data collection and reporting at the child, classroom and aggregate levels. ECO coordinates coaching and quality improvement support to teaching staff, in partnership with the Summit School District Preschool Coordinator. This robust partnership with the County, ECO and the School District was designed to ensure a high quality and accountable mixed delivery system.

SUMMIT COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS

\$2.5M per year

approximate amount Strong Futures Fund generates for Pre-Kindergarten

\$715 per month or \$8,600

the average tuition credit per child, per year for full-time, year-round Pre-K

Of the 250 students in the County

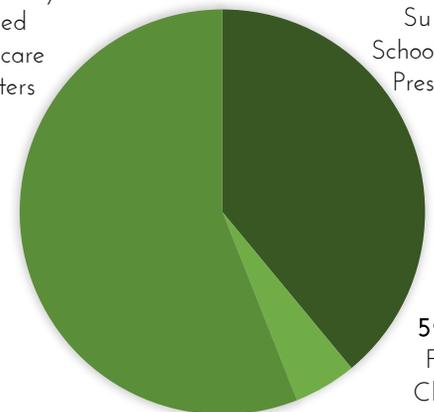
- 139 student slots are fully or partially funded through SPK
- 86 student slots are funded through CPP, Head Start, CCCAP
- 25 private-pay tuition

Prior to the new SPK program 75% of Pre-K tuition was paid for privately by parents.

Today, that number is 25%

DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS

56% at 7
Community
Based
Childcare
Centers



39% at 5
Summit
School District
Preschools

5% at 13
Family
Childcare
Homes

WHAT IS QUALITY CARE?

COLORADO SHINES

A **Colorado Shines** rating (Levels 1-5) means that a program is licensed, in good standing and meets health and safety standards. It also means that the program is regularly reviewed by state officials.

Programs with higher ratings (Levels 3-5) have gone through a process to demonstrate high-quality programs and practices in all areas that Colorado Shines reviews (see list below).

Colorado Shines rates the quality of childcare programs based on how well each program:

- Supports children's health and safety
- Ensures the staff are well-trained and effective
- Provides a learning environment that teaches children new skills
- Helps parents become partners in their child's learning
- Has good leadership and business practices

Once a program gets a rating, Colorado Shines has tools to help the program continue to improve its quality.*

*COLORADO SHINES QUALITY RATINGS PROCESS AT A GLANCE (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.coloradoshines.com/programs?p=Overview-of-the-ratings-process>

LEVEL 2 RATINGS

- ♥ Ali's Pals Child Care
- ♥ Breckenridge Montessori
- ♥ Candace's Child Care
- ♥ Jenny Vinyard-Houx
- ♥ Jerlyn Bouchard
- ♥ Joanne Green
- ♥ Judy Dombrowski
- ♥ Kathy's House of Learning and Play
- ♥ Laura Enriquez Sanchez
- ♥ Linda Farrell
- ♥ Mama Sue's
- ♥ Mountain Munchkins
- ♥ Open Arms Childcare & Preschool
- ♥ Rocky Mountain Montessori
- ♥ Sol Y Luna
- ♥ Soledad Duenas Childcare
- ♥ Timberline Learning Center

LEVEL 3 RATINGS

- ♥ Carriage House Early Learning Center
- ♥ Frisco Elementary Preschool
- ♥ Lake Dillon Preschool & Early Learning Center

LEVEL 4 RATINGS

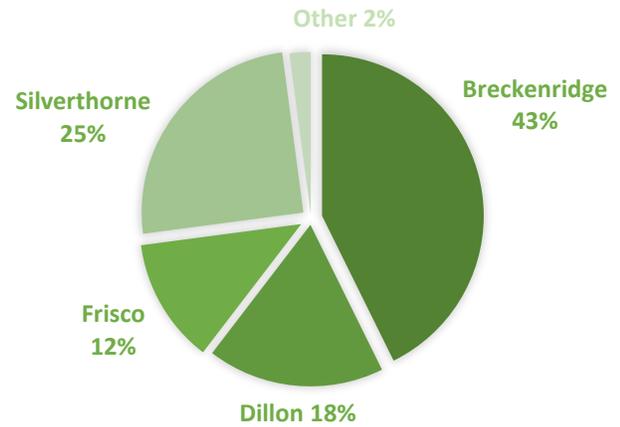
- ♥ Dillon Valley Elementary Preschool
- ♥ Little Red Schoolhouse
- ♥ Summit County Preschool
- ♥ Summit Cove Elementary Preschool
- ♥ Upper Blue Elementary School Preschool

"I just want to express our unending gratitude for this program...The cost of childcare has become prohibitive, but programs like this are necessary to pick up the slack." – SPK Parent

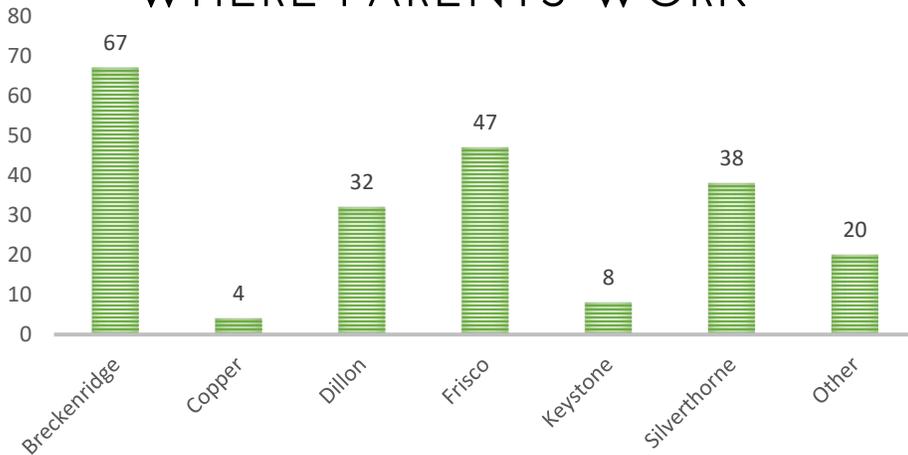


WHO WE SERVE

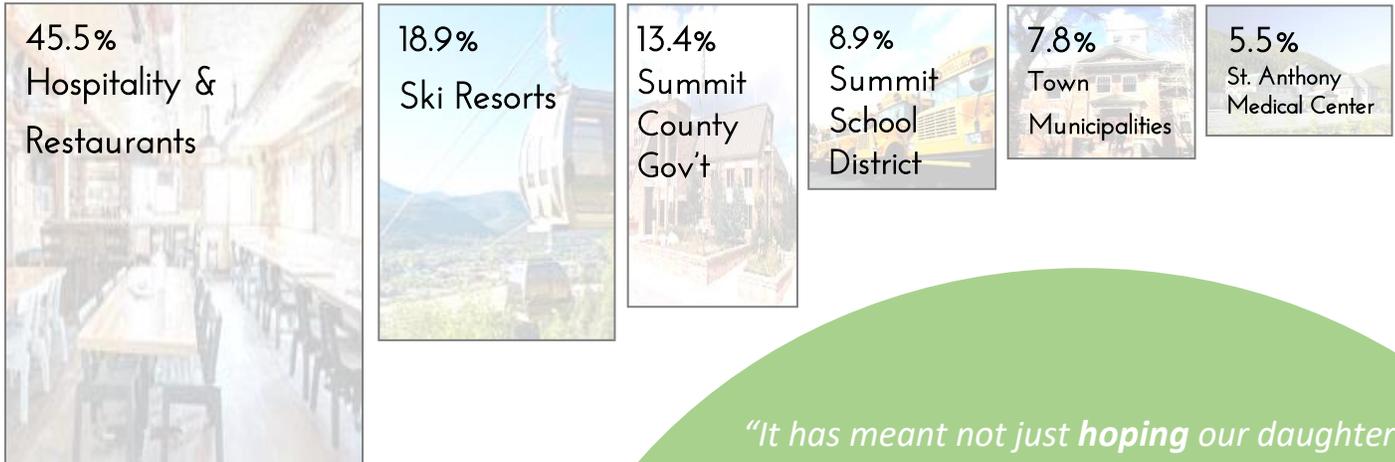
2019 TOWN RESIDENCY FOR SPK FAMILIES



WHERE PARENTS WORK



TOP EMPLOYERS



*"It has meant not just **hoping** our daughter is ready for Kindergarten, but **knowing** whether she is because of access to ongoing meaningful communication with her teachers about her relative development.*

It has meant being able to invest in the possibility of professionally thriving, and maybe being given a chance at breaking the cycle of working just to pay for child care and needing child care so that we can work, and thus developing ourselves as adults into whole people to live as positive examples for our children to see." –SPK Parent



SPOTLIGHT ON COACHING

COACHING SERVICES OFFERED FOR SPK RECIPIENTS

Assessments

- Pre-K **CLASS Tool** assessments are required twice a year (Fall and Spring) in all SPK classrooms.
- Technical Assistance is offered surrounding **TS GOLD** assessments (Fall, Winter, and Spring).
- **The Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool** (TPOT™) for Preschool Classrooms to reinforce high-quality practices that support children’s social-emotional development and behavior is available. TPOT measures how well teachers are implementing the 3 tiers of the Pyramid Model for Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children in classrooms serving children 2–5 years of age.
 - Early Childhood Options offers a Pyramid training series for teachers and administration annually.
- Technical assistance with ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE.

Screening Tool

- **Ages & Stages Questionnaires®** is a comprehensive, reliable screening tool that is used to track children’s development relative to milestones achieved by a larger group of children of the same age.

Colorado Shines

Coaching supports are offered to teachers in preparation for a Colorado Shines Level 3-5 rating, these supports include:

- Mock **Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale®** (ECERS) ratings to show areas for improvement prior to the screening conducted by **Clayton Early Learning**, the organization that oversees screenings and assigns ratings.
- Classroom arrangement and material check lists to prepare teachers on what to expect during the screening.
- Visits from the coach multiple times a week for the month leading up to the rating to help prepare the teacher and answer any questions they might have.

Other

- Supports surrounding challenging behaviors, classroom environment and arrangement, and social and emotional development.

PROGRAM GOALS

- CLASS® assessments 2 times a year & TS Gold assessments 3 times a year in participating centers.
- Professional Development through Colorado Shines **Professional Development Information System** (PDIS). A one-stop online resource for training related to early care and learning. PDIS offers a broad array of e-learning courses addressing all aspects of child development, health and safety, and quality instruction. PDIS is designed to support a variety of early childhood professionals at all levels of experience and education.*
- Provide education of local programs to hard-to-reach populations.
- A new child care center to be built in partnership with the Town of Silverthorne and the Summit County Government in the north end of the County.

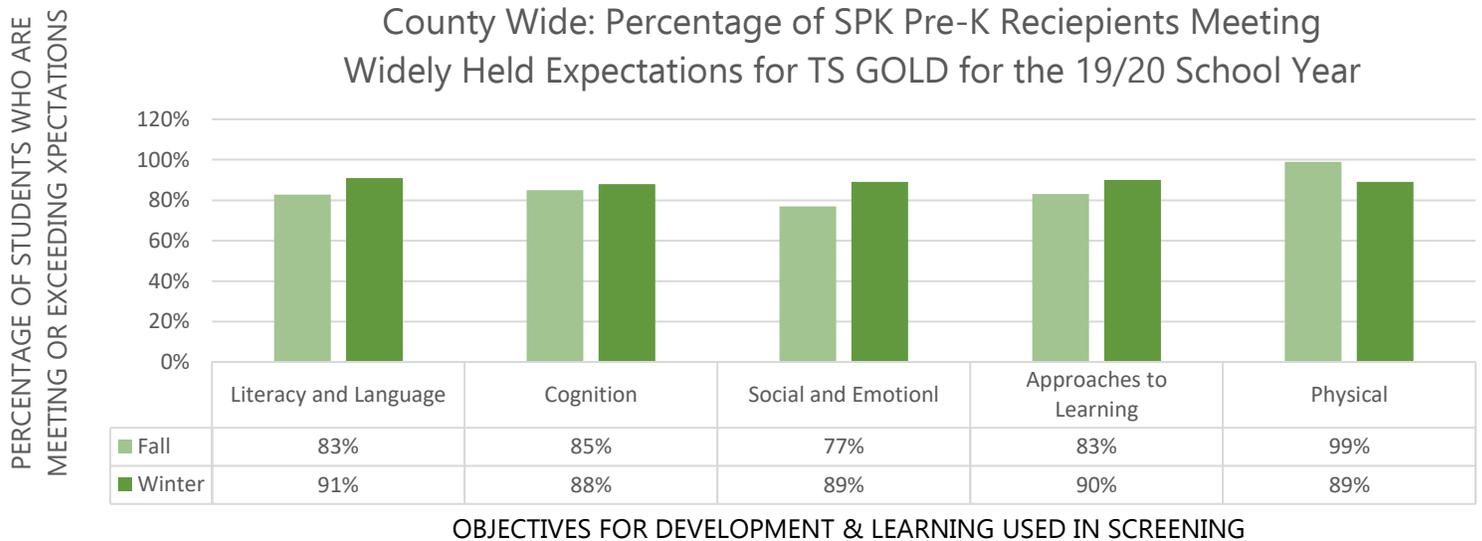
TeachingStrategies™

GOLD® DATA

GOLD® is the authentic, ongoing, observation-based assessment system that helps teachers and administrators focus on what matters most for children's success.

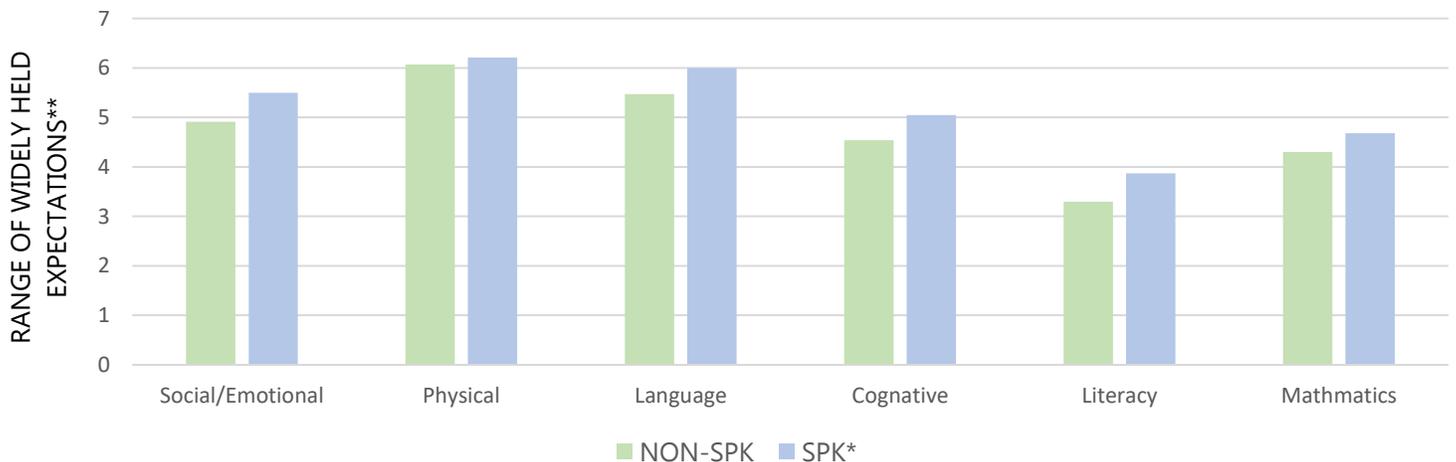
Grounded in our 38 research-based objectives for development and learning, GOLD® supports effective teaching and assessment, while providing you with more time to spend with the children in your program. Accessed through MyTeachingStrategies™, GOLD® automatically links teaching and assessment, making it easier to connect the dots across the most important aspects of high-quality early childhood education.

County Wide: Percentage of SPK Pre-K Recipients Meeting Widely Held Expectations for TS GOLD for the 19/20 School Year



OBJECTIVES FOR DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING USED IN SCREENING

Fall 2019 Kindergarten Assessment



*Pre-K students who received the 1st round of SPK funding during the 2nd half of the 18/19 school year and entered kindergarten Fall 2019.

**On average, students fall within these developmental ranges: Social/Emotional 4-8, Physical 5-8, Language 5-8, Cognitive 4-7, Literacy, not yet emerging to 11, Mathematics, not yet emerging – 7.