

UCI Early Childhood Education Center

Virtual Tour





Welcome to ECEC!



UCI Early Childhood Education Center

Location: 501 Adobe Circle Road Irvine, CA 92617

Hours: 7:30am - 5:30pm (Monday - Friday)

Enrollment: The Early Childhood Education Center offers a full-day preschool program for children two years to five years of age (or until eligible for kindergarten). The center serves UCI student, staff, and faculty families, as well as families from the community.

Early Childhood Education Center Telephone: (949) 824-2100

Director: Wenli Lin - wqlin@uci.edu

Program: We serve the two age groups listed below:

- 2 to 3 year old classrooms: Ratio: 1:6
- 3 to 5 year old classrooms: Ratio: 1:8

**If you have questions about
billing or
enrollment/waitlists, you
can call the Child Care
Services Office at

(949) 824-2100.**

License, NAEYC Accredited

ECEC is licensed by the State of California Department of Social Services, and is in good standing with compliance visits.

ECEC is also a NAEYC Accredited Program. As an Accredited Program we equip our program with the tools to provide the best learning experiences for young children and provide the highest quality professional preparation of educators by meeting national standards of quality.

[Link to NAEYC Accreditation Website](#)

What ECEC Provides

ECEC Provides:

- Morning and afternoon snack.
- Lunch: It includes five components - Grain, Protein, Vegetables, Fruit and Milk. *Our lunches rotate every 6 weeks.
- 1% Milk.
- We have a family style lunch in our classrooms.
- Each classroom has a caregiving board to let you know how your child ate for lunch.

[Link to Download Sample Menu](#)



Relationships and Partnerships

- Parents, caregivers, and children form a respectful, responsive and reciprocal partnership with the goal in mind of providing as much continuity as possible between home and school. Of primary concern is the establishment of a strong emotional bond between teachers and children. Additionally, we are interested in strengthening families to meet the varied demands of maintaining a career and a family in a rapidly changing world.
- Relationships and Partnerships also allows children to see important people in their lives working well together. When children see positive communication between their parents and teachers they begin to learn the importance of building healthy relationships.

UCI Child Care Services Curriculum Framework

The UCI Child Care Services Department uses a curriculum framework that encompasses the following areas:

- **Outdoor Classroom**--outdoor play and nature education.
- **Mindfulness, Empathy and Compassion**--teaching about empathy, compassion, respect, kindness, and mindfulness.
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion/Anti-Bias Education** - celebrating differences and including all members of our community.

Curriculum

Curriculum for preschool age children is largely based on the following:

- Relationships: Respectful and responsive interactions.
- Caregiving Routines: Increasing awareness, fostering development and positive identity during mealtimes, diaper changes, nap times, etc.
- Carefully planned activities, materials, experiences and environments that are based on and responsive to children's developmental needs and interests. These include the following developmental areas:
 - **Approaches to Learning and Self Regulation**
 - **Social and Emotional Development**
 - **Language and Literacy Development**
 - **Cognitive Development** (including Math and Science)
 - **Physical Development** (including Health, Safety, Personal Care Routines)

Teacher Staff

Primary teachers are assigned to each classroom. Primary teachers are full time career staff who have a Bachelor Degrees or Masters Degrees with credit-based training in early childhood education, and who hold child development permits.

- All career staff are trained, certified and current for CPR and first aid.
- Health and criminal background screenings are completed on all staff prior to working.
- Staff must complete ongoing professional growth hours.

UCI Student Employees (TAs)

Our center operates with the help of our undergraduate UCI employees, Teacher Assistant's (TAs). We hire student employees who share a keen interest in gaining and/or furthering their experience with toddlers and preschool age children specifically. They work under the supervision of our career teachers in the classrooms and undergo training with our director and career teachers.

Classroom Environment for 2 to 3 year olds



Classroom Environment for 2 to 3 year olds Cont.



Classroom Outdoor Environment for 2 to 3 year olds



Classroom Outdoor Environment 2 to 3 year olds Cont.



Classroom Garden for 2 to 3 year olds

ECEC's Toddler Classroom has a Garden!
Children help plant seeds and water plants that they are growing. Children also get to taste the vegetables that we grow!

Tending a garden with children is one of the ways we model and teach kindness, compassion, and care for our earth and each other.



Sample Daily Classroom Schedule for 2 to 3 year olds

7:30 - 9:30 AM - Indoor Activities/Free Choice

(9:00 - 9:30 Morning Snack is offered)

9:30 - 10:00 AM - Group Time

10:00 - 11:30 AM - Outdoor Activities

11:30 - 12:30 PM - Lunch

12:00 - 2:30 PM - Nap Time

2:30 - 3:45 PM - Indoor Activities/Free Choice

(3:00 - 3:30 Afternoon Snack is offered)

3:45 - 5:00 PM - Outdoor Play

5:00 - 5:30 PM - Quiet Activities/Parents Pickup

** Diapers and pottying will be done as needed throughout the day*



Once enrollment is confirmed for 2 to 3 year olds

Paperwork : An enrollment packet will be given to the family with several forms to fill out. The child will need a physical and an immunization record prior to the first day. The family will complete a child history form in order to give the center staff some background about your child and family.

Intake appointment: The director will set up a virtual intake appointment with the family prior to the first day of enrollment. During this zoom meeting, we will discuss your child's needs, your family's preferences, and anything you feel is important for us to know. This intake generally lasts 30 minutes to 1 hour and is done via zoom.

First week of care: To ensure a smooth and positive experience for your child, the first week of attendance will consist of a gradual transition to the program. It will generally look like this:

Day 0 - 1 hour visit with one parent present from 3:15 to 4:15 PM or 3:45-4:45 PM and will meet with classroom teachers. A classroom orientation will also be given.

Day 1 - Child attends for 1 hour - 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Day 2 - Child attends: for 2 hours - 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Day 3 - Child attends for 3 hours - 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Lunch)

Day 4: - Child attends for 6 hours - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Lunch and Nap)

Day 5 - Child will come in at 9:00 AM until pick up time (A Typical Day)

Classroom Environment for 3 to 5 years old



Classroom Environment for 3 to 5 year olds Cont.



Classroom Environment for 3 to 5 year olds Cont.



Classroom Outdoor Environment for 3 to 5 year olds



Classroom Outdoor Environment for 3 to 5 year olds Cont.



We have a MUD Kitchen!

Classroom Outdoor Environment for 3 to 5 year olds Cont.



Classroom Garden for 3 to 5 year olds



ECEC's Preschool Classrooms has a Garden where children plant seeds and water plants that they are growing.

Tending a garden with children is one of the ways we model and teach kindness, compassion, and care for our earth and each other.

Sample Daily Classroom Schedule for 3 to 5 year olds

7:30-9:45 AM - Indoor Activities/Small Group Projects/

(Morning Snack is offered 9:00 - 9:30)

9:45-10:00 AM - Morning Meeting

10:00-11:20 AM - Outdoor Activities/Gross Motor Experiences

11:20-11:30 AM - Song Books

11:30-12:15 PM - Lunch Time

1:00-2:30 PM - Rest Time

3:00-3:30 PM - Indoor Free Play

(Afternoon Snack is offered 3:00-3:30)

3:45-4:50 PM - Outdoor Activities

4:50-5:30 PM - Indoor Choices/Group Time Games/Parents Pickup



Once enrollment is confirmed for 3 to 5 year olds

Paperwork : An enrollment packet will be given to the family with several forms to fill out. The child will need a physical and an immunization record prior to the first day. The family will complete a child history form in order to give the center staff some background about your child and family.

Intake appointment: The director will set up a virtual intake appointment with the family prior to the first day of enrollment. During this zoom meeting, we will discuss your child's needs, your family's preferences, and anything you feel is important for us to know. This intake generally lasts 30 minutes to 1 hour and is done via zoom.

First week of care: To ensure a smooth and positive experience for your child, the first week of attendance will consist of a gradual transition to the program. It will generally look like this:

Day 0 - 1 hour visit with one parent present from 3:45-4:45 PM and will meet with classroom teachers. A classroom orientation will also be given.

Day 1 - Child attends for 3 hours - 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Lunch)

Day 2 - Child attends: for 6 hours - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Lunch and Nap)

Day 3 - Child will come in at 9:00 AM until pick up time. (A Typical Day)

Nap Time/Rest Time



- We provide a Nap time/Rest time in our classrooms.
- We provide the COTS but parents provide the bedding.
- Each child is assigned their own individual cot which is disinfected every Friday. Bedding is also sent home every Friday to get laundered.
- If the child does not sleep they still are asked to rest on their cots for a period of time. Then they will get a book or a quiet activity to do after resting.
- We play relaxing music and white noise in our classrooms.
- Each classroom has a caregiving board to let you know what times your child slept.

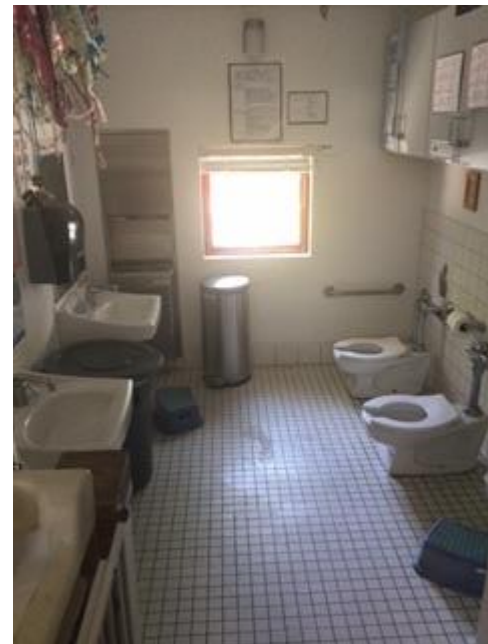
Toileting

- We have child size toilets and sinks for the children to go potty and wash their hands.

- Parents Provide:

- Diapers, Wipes, Diaper Cream and Extra Clothes

- The 2 to 3 year olds classroom has a caregiving board to let you know if your child's diaper was wet/dry, had a bowel movement or if they went potty.



Resources for Families



[Zero to Three](#)

[Help Me Grow Orange County](#)

[For Families \(NAEYC\)](#)

[Outdoor Classroom Project](#)

[Parenting & Family - Greater Good](#)

[Child Resource Center \(Irvine\)](#)

For more information and waiting list

Please visit www.childcare.uci.edu to learn more about our programs.

If you wish to apply to the waitlist, go to the Admissions tab, download the application, and mail the completed form and a \$50 application fee to:

UCI Child Care Services

Irvine, CA 92697-2250

For enrollment/wait list questions, please call the business office at (949) 824-2100

For program information, please call site director at (949) 824-2102