



6th Assembly District, Sacramento County

AB 1192 – TK Implementation

SUMMARY

The expansion of universal transitional kindergarten (TK) is a tremendous success. TK significantly improves kindergarten readiness, putting children ahead of their non-TK peers by up to six months in many academic skills. High-quality early learning improves social-emotional development, school readiness, and long-term academic achievement.

As TK continues to expand, AB 1192 strengthens implementation and access by ensuring schools receive attendance based funding for every student, reducing student ratios so that educators can form strong bonds with every child, and ensures that children are taught by qualified and experienced teachers and teacher aides.

BACKGROUND

In 2021-22, students were eligible for TK if they had their fifth birthday between September 2 and December 2. Similar to all other K-12 students, TK students generate attendance-based funding through LCFF. School districts have the option to provide TK to students who are born after the cutoff date (December 2 in 2021), but have their fifth birthday during the school year. However, school districts only receive attendance-based funding for these students after the student turns five.

While the state has made progress in reducing TK ratios from 24:1 to 12:1, the ratios are still higher than in other preschool programs. For example, California State Preschools have an 8:1 ratio. Current law, requires the ratio to be reduced to 10:1 in 2023-2023, but only contingent on a budget allocation. School districts need a clear and stable timeline for implementation.

Early education research is clear. The training of classroom staff and administrators matters. Under

current law, the typical service model for a TK classroom consists of a lead classroom teacher and an additional adult (assistant teacher). The lack of training among the TK workforce holds the strong potential to result in low-quality educational experiences for students. Administrators, teachers, and teacher aides all require proper training as transitional kindergarten is implemented.

SOLUTION

AB 1192 ensures that by 2025-26, schools will receive ADA for all TK students. This gives schools the support and security they need as TK is fully implemented.

This bill also reduces student to adult ratios to 10:1. Smaller classrooms alleviates stress on teachers, which was further exasperated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also ensures that each child is able to grow within a nurturing learning environment. Lower ratios are believed to improve child outcomes by increasing opportunities for individual interactions and educational instruction from staff.

Finally, AB 1192 also requires LEAs to provide administrators, teachers, and teacher aides with professional development training. This guarantees that we build a well-qualified TK workforce, while not pushing individual employees out of the field.

SUPPORT

Children Now (Sponsor)
Early Edge (Sponsor)
Kidango (Sponsor)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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