

Referral in Program:

All children will go through a screening and, if warranted, a specialized evaluation to determine eligibility in the program. "Child find" activities such as play-based and group screenings will also be conducted to locate children in the community who have developmental concerns. The preschool program has a continuous enrollment policy for children with developmental concerns, at risk and typically developing peers.

The Summit ESC follows all processes and procedures outlined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).

Participating Districts:

Copley-Fairlawn	Mogadore
Coventry	Nordonia Hills
Cuyahoga Falls	Stow-Munroe Falls
Field	Tallmadge
Manchester	Woodridge

The Summit ESC Preschool Program is licensed by the State of Ohio. State inspection reports of the preschool are available for viewing through the supervisor or designee.



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Preschool Program

The mission of the Preschool Program is to create a lifetime of learning for children through meaningful play experiences, creative thinking and problem solving opportunities in order to build a foundation essential to the unique development of each and every child.

This will be accomplished through establishing and sustaining partnerships with the families, districts, agencies and communities.



What is the Preschool Program?

Since September 1990, the Summit ESC has worked in collaboration with local and city schools to provide preschool services to children ages three to five who are at risk, typically developing or identified with special needs.

The purpose of the Summit ESC Preschool Program is to:

- Provide a quality educational classroom and/or itinerant programming to preschool-aged children.
- Provide education to children in an integrated setting where functional and developmentally appropriate activities are provided to facilitate the growth of each child.
- Provide support and assistance to families in meeting the needs of the child.
- Provide consultation and collaboration to families and schools in transitioning children from preschool to kindergarten or other programs in the public school setting.
- Provide screening, evaluation and or service coordination for children throughout their time in the program.

Who Provides the Services?

- Special Education Preschool Teacher
- Classroom Assistant(s)

Additional support staff may include:

- Speech Language Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Audiologist

What Services are Provided?

- 26 half day and full-day center-based classroom programs designed for children who are typically developing, at risk and those with special needs
- Nine locations throughout Summit County and one location in Portage County
- Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday class options
- Itinerant services for children in community-based settings
- Teaching Auditory Learning in Kids Program (T.A.L.K.) (Hearing Impaired Classroom)
- First Start (Intensive Preschool Classroom)
- Referral to community agencies (facilitate service options)
- Parent programs and in-service trainings
- Speech – Language Therapy (as outlined in Child's Individualized Education Program (IEP))
- Nursing support
- Occupational and Physical Therapy and Audiology (as outlined in Child's IEP)
- Psychological – to determine eligibility for services

Community Organization Collaboration:

- Local and City School Districts
- Akron Children's Hospital
- Help Me Grow
- Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Child Guidance & Family Solution
- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA)
- Community Preschools
- Fatherhood Initiative

Family Involvement Opportunities:

- Volunteer to help in the classroom
- Volunteer to attend a field trip
- Participate in family day activities
- Attend conferences
- Parent-Teacher Organization

