



T H E C H O I C E F O R G R O W T H

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SUNFLOWER EARLY EDUCATION CENTER PEER MODEL INFORMATION SHEET

The Sunflower Early Education Center promotes an integrated Early Childhood Special Education Developmental Program. The preschool program serves children aged 2-3 who qualify for infant/toddler services. Eligibility for these services include developmental delays and/or a diagnosed medical or physical condition.

Having typically developing peers as models for those children with developmental delays will create a more natural environment. The preschool program consists of two mornings a week for 2 ½ hours.

1. Children must complete a Community Screening with no apparent concerns.
2. Children must be two years old, but not yet three.
3. Parents must be able to provide transportation to and from school.
4. Immunization record and health assessment must be current and on file at the Sunflower Early Education Center (EEC).

Children who meet the eligible criteria will be chosen on a first come, first serve basis. Children will then be observed for a 2-3 week trial period to observe how they interact with the other children and staff before a final decision will be made.

Not all children display the qualities we are looking for as peer models. These qualities include: the ability to separate from parent, age appropriate speech and language (no articulation errors), cooperative play skills with children and adults, compliance with adult directives, willingness to try new activities and the ability to focus attention on a task. The trial period gives the child time to adjust and adapt to a new environment and new people.

If at any time during their placement the EEC staff, peer model review team or parents have concerns about a child's behavior, development or adjustment to the preschool setting a meeting will be held to review and consider possible dismissal.

Since we do not charge tuition, we ask that parents help support our program by donating needed items or money. Some parents choose to make their donation all at once and others choose to spread it out over the time their child attends school at EEC. A list of needed donation items follows. We suggest a total donation of approximately \$5.00 per day of attendance to help balance the cost of supplies and food.

If transportation by EEC is required, a charge of \$1.00 per day would be requested to defray costs.

Peer Model Tuition Information

As we do not charge tuition, we ask parents to help support our program by donating items or money. Some parents choose to make their donation all at once, while others prefer to pay monthly. Donation items are listed below. We suggest a total donation of \$5.00 per day either through supply items or money for each day your child attends.

Food items approved by our state food program are:

Canned fruit – apricots, peaches, pears, pineapple, applesauce, plums, mixed fruit

Fruit juices – must be 100% juice (look for this phrase on the juice container)

Milk – Vitamin D or 2% only

Cereals – Cheerios, Kix, Rice Krispies, Chex, Corn flakes, Life, other low sugar cereals

Snack items – graham crackers, saltines, Cheez-its, Triscuits, Ritz crackers, Club crackers, goldfish crackers, animal crackers, vanilla wafers (generic brands of above brands are fine)

Other items – Paper towels, wet wipes, kleenex, toilet paper, washable markers, crayons, colored chalk, playdough, etc.

We must be able to determine a monetary value of the items donated to properly give credit toward the daily \$5.00 amount, so please have receipts available (we can make a copy for your records if needed).

The above are only suggestions. If you have other items in mind, please check with EEC staff for approval. Thank You.

