

**KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center FAQ's**

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## **Eligibility and fees**

### **Who is eligible to enroll in the center?**

The center operates on a priority tier structure with highest priority given to children of full time benefit eligible faculty and staff. Graduate students, undergraduate students, and Purdue affiliates are also encouraged to apply. At this time, the center is not available to the general public.

### **What is the registration fee?**

There currently is no registration fee for KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center. There is a \$75 enrollment fee for the center, which is due on or before a child's first day. An annual activity fee of \$50 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child is also collected each July.

### **What are the tuition rates?**

Great care has been taken by Purdue University to offer quality education and child care programs and services at rates comparable to the local market. The rate structure is based on family income and verified by the previous year's tax return. View rate chart for [KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center](#) to see a breakdown of the rates.

### **Is there a discount for a family with more than one child at the center?**

Yes, a 5% discount is offered to reduce the tuition of the oldest child.

### **What payment options are offered?**

Checks, money orders or credit cards are accepted. For your convenience, electronic funds transfers can be set up to have your tuition and fees automatically drafted from your bank account on a weekly or monthly basis. For the safety of the children and our teachers, we do not allow cash payments at the center. No payroll deduction options are available currently.

## **Waiting List**

### **What is the waiting list policy?**

The waiting list is based on a priority structure which is dynamic in nature. The priority structure is as follows:

1. Sibling Priority - In an effort to keep families together, we honor sibling priority. The sibling of a child who is currently enrolled in the center will get the first available spot in the appropriate classroom.
2. Faculty/Staff – Full Time/Benefits Eligible
3. Student – Full Time

Once registered, you will be kept on the waiting list until one of the following happens: (1) you ask to be removed, (2) the registered child is no longer eligible, or (3) you have refused an invitation to be enrolled at the Center three times.

As positions become available, children of the appropriate age will be called from our waiting list. Families will have 72 hours to respond to the offer. Additionally, families on this waiting list have the option to refuse the position up to three times without losing their position on the waiting list. After the third refusal, you will be removed from the list or placed at the bottom of the list. Families are encouraged to register on the waiting list as soon as possible, prior to the birth of their child, especially if infant care is desired.

## **About the KinderCare Education at Work as the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center**

### **Where is the center located?**

The center address is 1568 W. State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906.

### **How do I arrange to take a tour?**

All tours of the KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center are by appointment only. Please call 765-743-3250 so we can schedule the best time for you to visit the center.

### **What are the hours of operation for the center?**

The center is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **Does KinderCare Learning Center at the Patty Jischke Early Care & Education Center close during any special times of the year?**

The center is closed during university holidays and one additional day per year for professional development. A schedule of the Purdue University holidays can be seen at

(<https://www.purdue.edu/hr/Benefits/currentEmployees/leaves/holidays.html>).

### **What ages of children are served at the center?**

The center offers early care and education for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years.

### **How many spaces does the center offer?**

The center has the capacity to serve 86 children on a full-time basis. View the [KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center](#) capacity chart to see a breakdown of full-time slots by age group.

### **What is the child/teacher ratio?**

In each classroom there is a lead teacher and an assistant teacher. The child:staff ratio will vary based on the specific age group of each classroom. The teachers are supplemented throughout the day for both lunch hours and educator preparatory time by additional center support staff. View the [KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center](#) Ratio Chart to see a breakdown by age group.

**Who is responsible for center operations?**

KinderCare Education at Work at the Purdue University Early Care & Education Center is operated by KinderCare Education at Work.

**What are the qualifications of the teachers?**

All teachers are carefully selected based upon experience, education and a passion for children. Each teacher will meet or exceed state requirements. All lead teachers are required to have a Bachelor's degree or Associates degree in early childhood, child development or related field; assistants and resource teachers must have a CDA or higher. Professionals who have chosen early care and education as their career find that they appreciate the working environment with their state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and curriculum. Teachers are also provided comprehensive training programs; including the requirement that they attend a minimum of 20 hours of training annually and that they hold a certification in both first aid and CPR.

**Do the teachers have background checks?**

Yes, all teachers submit to pre-hire background checks as well as checks every six months. Random drug testing is also conducted.

**What will my young child be learning? Do you follow a curriculum?**

The KCEW curriculum, *Early Foundations*, provides a framework for excellence in early care and education, while meeting the individual needs of each child and family enrolled in our centers. We help children to see the world as an invitation to learn, to grow, and to live fully—to see a world full of possibilities that are within their reach. We create developmentally appropriate environments in which each child learns what the world is like, how it works, and what he or she is capable of achieving. We help children approach school and academics with skill, confidence, and a drive for excellence. The program continuously evolves, reflecting new research in the field and our close association with the NAEYC. Equally important are the reflection of the children's interests and abilities, and the cultures of families enrolled in our centers.

Armed with their knowledge gained from our comprehensive training programs and an extensive library of resources, KinderCare Education at Work teachers guide children's experiences through projects, activities, and learning opportunities that correspond with children's developmental abilities and their expressed interests. In this way, our curriculum emerges from the children. What is planned for the classroom today grows out of what happened yesterday. For more information on Our Approach, please visit <http://www.kindercare.com/our-centers/west-lafayette/in/081051>.

**Do the children have snacks or meals at the center?**

Yes, breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack are provided. To encourage healthy eating habits and because the center participates in Partnership for a Healthier America, menus include many healthy food choices. A few examples are the elimination of all trans fats, offering whole grain breads and pastas, and serving 100% juice and purified water. All meals are served "family style" and consist of a

4-week rotating menu, which exceeds nutrition guidelines set by the United States Department of Agriculture and the American Dietetic Association, and will be posted or provided to families.

**Do you provide diapers, wipes, and formula?**

No, because each young child has such individual needs, families will be asked to supply these items.

**Will the children go outside?**

Outdoor curriculum is an important part of the program. Weather permitting; all children will go outside daily. The center follows Indiana Licensed Child Care Center weather policies to determine when it is appropriate to be outdoors. Three playgrounds with age-specific equipment, green space, and plenty of shade are available at the center.

**What are the arrangements for nursing mothers?**

We recognize the importance of and support breast feeding and have incorporated a separate nursing room into the center for mothers of enrolled children who prefer privacy and quiet when nursing their children. Storage for the expressed breast milk can be immediately stored in their child's classroom, if desired.

**Further information**

**What security measures does the center have?**

We know that the safety of the children enrolled in the center is a primary concern of families. To address security concerns, we have developed a comprehensive approach to security. The front doors of the center will be locked at all times requiring visitors, families, and guardians to utilize a keypad to gain access to the building. A security camera system with monitors at the front desk will allow center staff to keep an eye on all entrances and exits to the building. The front lobby is continuously staffed to monitor all persons coming and going from the building. In addition, another layer of security is our Family Connection system. This system enables families and guardians to sign their child in and out of the center utilizing a unique PIN code. Also, the use of our Tadpoles system in the classrooms allows teachers to easily ensure all children in their care are accounted for at all times.

**Can I visit my child on breaks or at mealtimes?**

We welcome and encourage families and guardians to visit during breaks, meals, or at any time.

**Interested in Employment?**

Please visit our website at <http://www.kindercare.com>, scroll down and select Careers.

**How do I get additional information?**

Please contact the Center Director, Jake Guy at 765-743-3250.