

California Early Childhood
Special Education Network

Transitions from Part C to B

From Early Intervention to Special Education Services

Presented by

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How Early Start Services Were Established

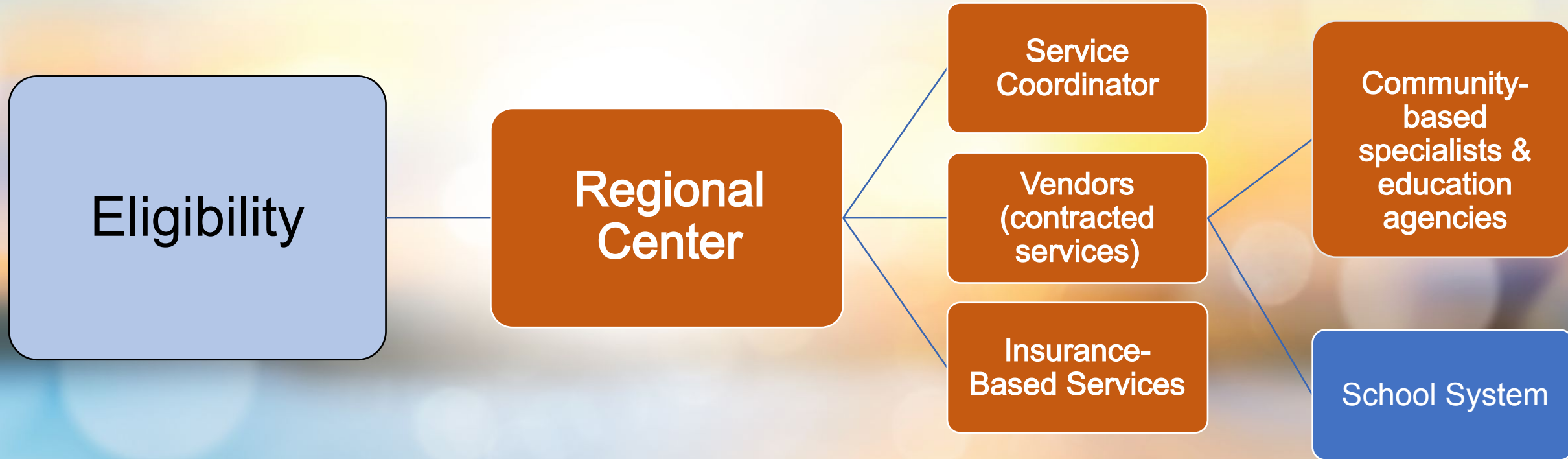
- Referral / Enrollment
- Determination of Current Level of Development
- Eligibility Determination/Developmental Needs/Risks
- Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Outcomes
- IFSP Services / Service Coordination
- Periodic and Annual Reviews



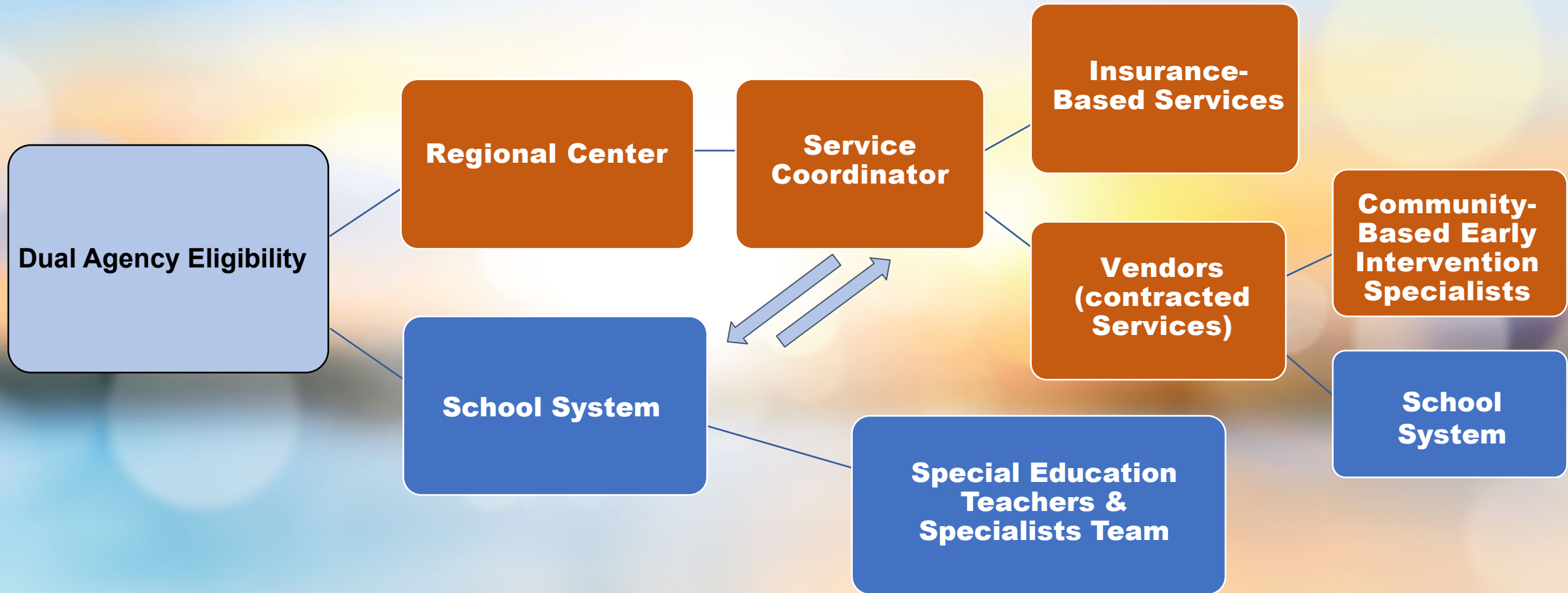
Early Start Services

Birth to Age Three

Early Start Services



Early Start Services



Transition at Age Three

An Introductory Overview



Transition Process Educational Services

Age Two

- Conversations about transition begin

Two years, Three months. Two years, Nine months

- Transition Planning Team: family, Early Start, and staff from the school district where you live

No later than the Third birthday

- School District completes assessments and holds a meeting to develop an individualized education program with parents, and offers services to start at age three

Eligibility Birth to Age Three

Infants and toddlers up to age three are eligible for Early Start if they require early intervention services due to any of the following:

- Developmental Delays - of at least 25% difference between their age and their level of functioning
- Established Risk – when a child has a condition that has high probability of resulting in developmental delays (Example: Down Syndrome)
- High Risk of a Developmental Delay – prematurity and certain medical factors/conditions



Eligibility at Age Three and Above

Children ages three and above are eligible for education and regional center services separately

- Education Services – eligibility is based on assessment results, she/he meets the California eligibility criteria for any of thirteen disabilities
- Regional Center Services – eligibility is based on determination that she/he has a developmental disability which is expected to continue throughout life (Lanterman Act)



Separate Eligibility at Age Three

School System 13 Eligibility Criteria

Regional Center

Determination of
developmental disability
which is expected to
continue throughout life

Specific Learning Disability

Other Health Impairment

Autism

Emotional Disability

Language or Speech Impairment

Visual Impairment, including Blindness

Deafness

Hard of Hearing

Deaf Blindness

Orthopedic Impairment

Intellectual Disability

Traumatic Brain Injury

Multiple Disabilities

How is Eligibility Determined?

Transition Process Regional Center Services



Services Beyond Age Three

Continued Regional Center services will be based on the Regional Center eligibility criteria and your child's evaluation findings.

If you wish to pursue ongoing Regional Center Services after age three, your Early Start Service Coordinator can help you:

- **Arrange for an evaluation to be completed when your child is between Two and a half and three years old**
- **Review all available medical and evaluation reports**
- **Provide you the results of the eligibility determination**
- **Develop an Individualized Program Plan (IPP) for services at age three and beyond**



Transition Process Specialized Educational Services

Special Education

Assessment/Evaluation is the first step in determining if your child is eligible for special education. No assessment may be conducted without your written consent on the Assessment Plan.

- **You are an important team member and will be asked to provide information about your child.**
- **You can share assessments completed by other agencies.**
- **The team will be looking to determine your child's strengths and areas of developmental concern.**
- **The district will explain the assessment process and only evaluate your child if you give your written consent.**

Remember, you've known your child longer than anyone, and you observe him/her in many different situations. You have important information to offer!



What Happens if My Child is Not Eligible for Ongoing Regional Center Services or Specialized Educational Services?



Your Early Start service coordinator, with support from the Early Start teachers and the district assessment team staff, will:

- Assist you with locating appropriate community resources
- Connect with your local Resource and Referral agency to find a community childcare/preschool setting for your child
- Connect you with State Preschool Programs in your area available for three and four year olds
- Connect with other subsidized preschool programs (vouchers/Head Start), if needed
- Close your child's Early Start case when your child turns three and exits Early Start

What Happens if I Don't Want to go Through the Process for My Child to Receive Special Education Services at age Three?

- Your child's name, age, parent names and contact information will be provided to the school district where you reside
- The Early Start Team will complete the final IFSP and include any information regarding the transition process and your decision
- The school district where you reside, may contact you to again offer the option to have your child evaluated for eligibility
- If you should decide at a later time that you do want to consider an evaluation to determine whether your child would be eligible for special education services, you can contact your school district directly



- A federal requirement for both Part C and Part B to actively locate children age birth to twenty-two who may be eligible for special education services.
- The state must identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities in the state who need special education and related service.
- To do so, states conduct “Child Find” activities and parents are asked if the “child find” system can evaluate their child.
- Regional Centers and Local Education Agency (LEA) work in partnership

Child Find

IDEA- 34 CFR § 300.111



What Happens if I Don't Want to go Through the Process for My Child to Receive Special Education Services at age Three?

The local Regional Center/Part C Provider is required to make an official referral to the LEA in which a child resides, letting them know there is a child who is potentially eligible for Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This step must occur even if the parents do not want a transition meeting or for detailed records to be released to the LEA. Referral does not require parent permission to provide the child's name, the child's date of birth, and the parents' contact information.

- The school district where you reside will contact you to again offer the option to have your child evaluated for eligibility.
- If you should decide at a later time that you do want to consider an evaluation to determine whether your child would be eligible for special education services, you can contact your school district directly.

Transition Process

- On the child's third birthday, Early Intervention services are terminated.
- If child is eligible under Provisional or Lanterman eligibility, case will be transferred to Family Services and child will be assigned a new Service Coordinator.
- Your child will continue with school district services (if eligible) or generic resources.



Family Resource & Empowerment Center



A referral to your local Family Resource & Empowerment Center (FEC) can happen at any time during your process. Parents' Place is the local FEC serving the San Gabriel Valley and Pomona areas.

The list of all Family Resource and Empowerment Centers can be found at:

- Empowerment Centers (32 regions)

<https://www.seedsofpartnership.org/familyEmpowerment.html>

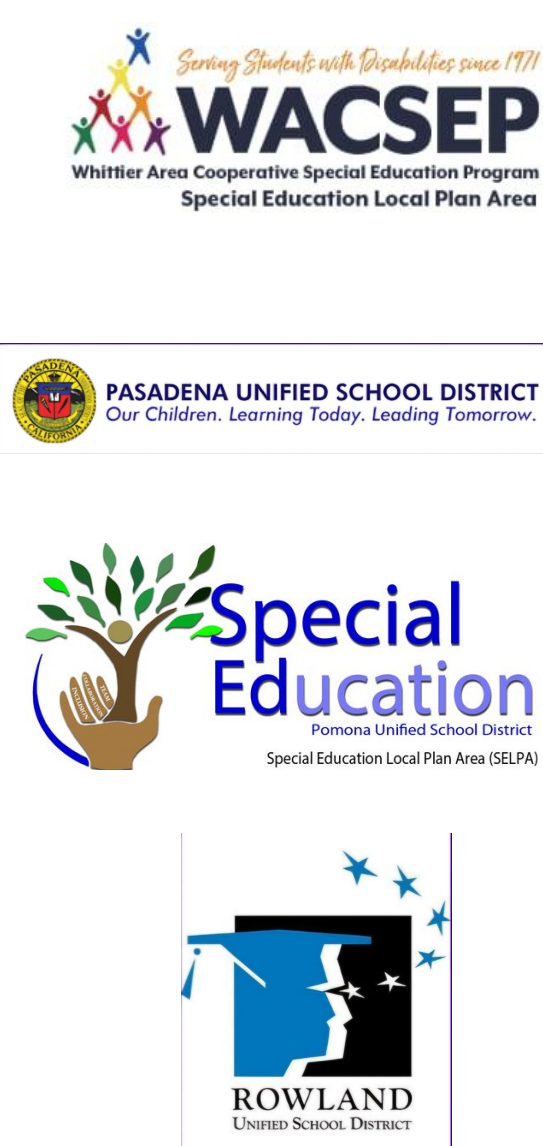
- Parents' Place Family Resource & Empowerment Center

<https://www.parentsplacefrc.com/>



SERVING SEVEN SELPAS WITHIN THE PARENTS' PLACE GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Serving forty one School Districts within the Seven SELPAS



Whittier Area Cooperative Special Education Program SELPA



Pasadena SELPA



Pomona SELPA

Rowland Heights SELPA

Hacienda La Puente SELPA



West San Gabriel Valley SELPA

East San Gabriel Valley SELPA

Parents' Place can help you with one-to-one assistance with:

- Transition Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- Understanding the assessment process
- Provide you with support groups
- Prepare you for your first IEP
- Connect you with other parents in a similar situation
- Training and workshops for better success



Downloadable Handout Available for Parents and Caregivers



A downloadable handout, A Parent's Guide to the Part C to Part B Transition (Age Two Turning Three), provides families with an overview of early childhood special education supports, including local contacts, transition guidance from Part C to Part B, and information on family rights and participation.

It can be accessed on CalECSE's website at:

[https://www.calecse.org/uploads/blogs/files/1762532535_Parent%20Outreach%20Resource%20October%202025%20Compliant%2001%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.calecse.org/uploads/blogs/files/1762532535_Parent%20Outreach%20Resource%20October%202025%20Compliant%2001%20(1).pdf)



How to Prepare Your Toddler for Transition

- Begin talking about the change with your child early and frequently
- Help your child adjust to new situations by practicing being separated from you
 - Begin with short intervals and build up to longer times
- Look for books with pictures of preschools and children to read frequently with your child
- Talk about the “new school,” meeting new friends and how much fun it will be
- If you are able to visit ahead of time, take pictures of the new teacher, classroom areas, the playground, where backpacks are hung and some of the toys.
 - Look at the pictures often
 - Make a book for your child, with the pictures you took
- Start pointing out school buses in the community and create excitement about riding a bus
- Attend group settings where your child will interact with other children the same age
 - Library Hour
 - Nursery groups at churches
 - Play groups
- Talk to other parents about what they did that was successful
- Ask your Early Start services provider for more ideas



Questions?

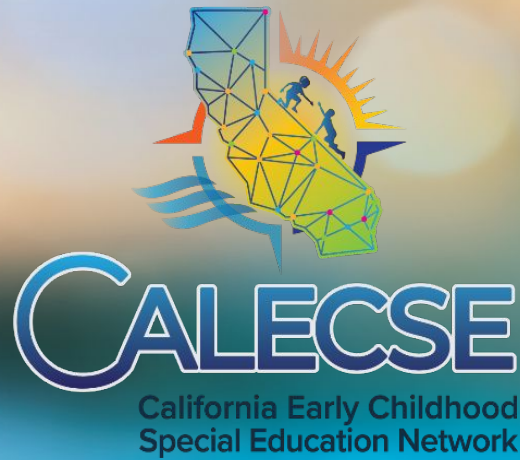
Thank you!



CALECSE

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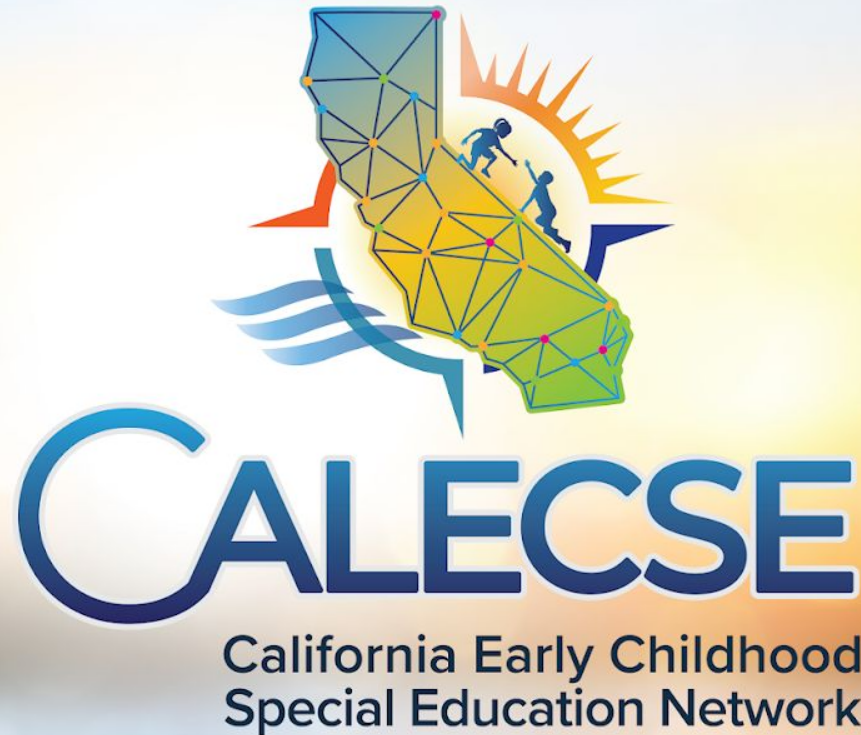


Please help us improve our practice and complete the zoom survey following this session.



After doing so, you will be entered into a raffle to win a free registration to **CalECSE's 4th Annual Symposium** to be held in Northern California October 20–21, 2026. Valued at over \$500.

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Community of Practice (CoP) for
practitioners who support children ages
zero to five ?**

Find our full schedule of
regional CoPs at:
<https://www.calecse.org/news-resources/communities-of-practice>

