

## U Kids Presidents Circle: FAQ

### Is UKids Presidents Circle (UPC) licensed?

Yes. All campus UKids Child Care Programs are licensed and in good standing by the Utah Child Care Licensing office.

### Is UKids Presidents Circle (UPC) nationally accredited?

Yes. UPC is accredited through the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The 5 year re-accreditation was to take place in 2021. Due to the pandemic, reaccreditation site visits were postponed until 2022, however, the extensive center portfolio was still required in the spring. This was submitted to and was approved for reaccreditation.

### What are the hours of operation?

UKids Presidents Circle operates from 7 am to 7 pm.

### When will the full time classrooms open?

Full time care is scheduled to begin on October 18, 2021.

### When is UPC closed?

We close for all University observed holidays and university closure dates. In addition, we will be closed 1 week prior to summer semester (we will be open the week prior to fall semester, but closed the week prior to that week) and the week between Christmas and New Year's observance.

### What are UPC's classroom ratios?

NAEYC and Utah CCL set child:teacher ratios as well as group size maximum requirements. UPC follows NAEYC accreditation ratios and group size max. However, in some mixed age groups, Utah CCL is lower ratio and/or group size max. In this case, we use the smaller ratio or group size number.

0 – 24 months 1:4 with a group size up to 8 infants with 2 teachers, however, we are running 3:8 at this time.

24-36 months 1:6 with a group size up to 12 with 2 teachers.

3 years 1:10 with a group size of 15 with 2 teachers. During the bulk of the day a 2:15 ratio is kept for preschool classrooms.

4-5 years 1:10 with a group size of 17 with 2 teachers, unless grouped with 3's then lower group size.

### What are the UPC full-time monthly tuition rates?

Age of child	FULL-TIME
12-24 months	\$1,400
24 – 36 months	\$1,192
3 - 6	\$1,071

Does UPC have full-time teachers?

Yes. Each classroom employs at least 1 full-time lead and 1 classroom has two full-time teachers. Part-time classroom assistants are also in classrooms to help reduce the child to teacher ratio.

Does UPC employ student workers?

Yes. Many of the staff are students who are in related studies.

Does UPC accommodate children with special needs?

Yes. Whether it be physical, medical, food, or other needs, we endeavor to make reasonable accommodations based on each child's individual needs.

Is UPC a drop-in center?

No. Currently UPC is mainly a part-time scheduled block care. Families may not use care on a drop-in basis, but must arrange a consistent part-time schedule. After the expansion the current classrooms will remain a part-time block care and the expansion rooms will be a full-time daily model.

Does UPC provide preschool services?

Yes. All UKids Child Care Programs implement a nationally researched and recognized play-based learning philosophy and method called Creative Curriculum. The philosophy was developed by a former preschool teacher in 1988, with Developmentally Appropriate Practices and play-based learning environments that nurture a child's learning in 4 main areas: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. It prescribes that a child's learning in all aspects is best achieved when they are engaged holistically and through their natural desire to play.

The Creative Curriculum helps **teachers interact with children in ways** that promote development and learning, foster children's social competence, support children's learning through play, create rich environments for learning, and forge strong home-school connections.

Read more about Creative Curriculum here: <https://teachingstrategies.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Research-Foundation-Creative-Curriculum.pdf>

In order to better inform teachers of an individual child's development, we pair our usage of The Creative Curriculum with the planning and assessment tool called Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG). This allows teachers to assess children on research-based development of children using a continuum of "Color Bands" for all ages. Although assessments are done through constant interaction and assessment, check points are conducted 3 times per year for each child. (December, April, July) The daily observations help teachers to plan for children's interests and development. Lesson plans, assessments, and communication with parents is completed through TSG.

In order to support teachers with Creative Curriculum, TSG, and other aspects, we employ a Curriculum Specialist and Coach who helps teachers navigate through the program and curriculum.

What COVID precautions are in place?

1. In a special session of the Utah legislation, a bill passed (H.B. 1007) prohibiting schools from requiring masks and specifically "prohibits an institution of higher education from requiring a face

covering to participate in or attend instruction, activities, or in any other place on the campus of the institution after the end of the spring semester in 2021.”. The only exemption to this legislation is for those in health care facilities or studying in medical setting (for additional detail on this bill visit <https://le.utah.gov/~2021S1/bills/static/HB1007.html>).

UPC continues to be a mask friendly and encourage families to wear mask. Every adult who enters the building including parents, staff, maintenance or delivery, etc. are highly encouraged to wear a face covering at all times. If you would like teachers to try to keep masks on your children while in care, please provide enough masks to use throughout the day.

2. Although we maintained curb pick-up for a year of the pandemic, in May 2021 Utah Child Care Licensing removed the curb pick-up and returned to all state rules. This included the following rule: *The provider shall ensure that parents have access to their child and the areas used to care for their child when their child is in care.*  
Per this rule, parents drop their children off in their classrooms.
3. We will soon return to check in and check out on a computer. After you have completed the process, we ask that you take a Clorox wipe and wipe down the computer keyboard.
4. Staff continue to clean and sanitize often. Facilities also provides a cleaner who comes every hour to clean high-touch areas.
5. To the extent that staffing will allow, we keep individual classrooms separate from other classrooms.
6. All individuals are asked to disclose any COVID systems they may be experiencing. If a child, parent, or staff have a fever 100 or greater, they are asked to not come to the child care. There is a thermometer for adults and children on the entrance where parents, children, and staff can check their temperatures while entering the building.
6. If a child, parent, or family member is ill, we ask that you keep your children at home until the family is symptom free. We also require staff members who are ill to remain at home.
7. When parents enter the building, please use the alcohol-based hand sanitizer provided at the front doors. The teachers will help children wash their hands, but it is strongly encouraged that you and your child wash their hands upon arrival. Sinks are available in all classrooms. If you are dropping off an infant, it is important to remember that no outside shoes are allowed in the infant areas. Please remove your shoes or use the provided shoe covers.

#### What meals are provided?

UPC will provide for a morning and afternoon snack. Parents will need to provide a nutritional lunch for their children. All meals are served in the child’s classroom.

#### What training are teachers required to have and attend?

Most lead teachers have a BA in a related field and some have a Master's. In addition, all staff are required to complete yearly trainings in a variety of topics including: CPR/First Aid, Food Handler's, mandated reporting, child development, child behavior management, etc.

What is teacher turnover like at UPC?

4 lead teachers have been at UPC for 3 or 4 years. 2 of the newest lead teachers have been at UPC for several years but as a part-time assistant and moved into full-time lead positions in May.