

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EDUCATION & POVERTY SUBCOMMITTEE  
FOR THE TASK FORCE REPORT

1. The eligibility period for CCAP (Child Care Assistance Program) should conform with the school year, as the Early Childhood Commission is proposing, and CCAP eligibility in general should be expanded, to ensure that parents are able to get postsecondary education or stay in a job.
2. The School Readiness Quality Improvement Program should be expanded to serve all eligible providers – which are child care facilities that feed into Title I low-performing schools. High-quality child care has been proven to promote school readiness.
3. The quality standards that were required for the CPKP (Colorado Preschool and Kindergarten Program) before the “K” was removed need to be reinstated. What this means is that kindergarten students who had been in the Colorado Preschool Program should be in kindergarten classrooms with no more than 16 students.
4. Comprehensive family support services should be available in high-poverty schools.
5. Out-of-school suspension should be eliminated to prevent students from starting on the path towards truancy, because truancy leads to dropping out of school, which leads to a high likelihood of being in poverty.
6. Assistance services should be continued for the young adults through age 21 (and older, if possible) who had formerly received child welfare services (i.e., were in foster care).
7. An infrastructure needs to be created to provide mentors for poor adults and children, to give them support as they go through their education or workforce training.
8. Workforce development and training, Adult Basic Education, and ESL at community colleges need to continue to be funded.
9. Community colleges should continue to reach out to low-income populations, to give them the education necessary for access to jobs that lead to self-reliance, such as jobs in emerging fields like “green energy.”
10. Our members of Congress should be strongly encouraged to support expansion of the required eligibility activities in TANF reauthorization to support college completion.