Registration
To enroll your children contact the center director at (708) 709-3725 or submit your information online at prairiestate.edu/clc.
We require advance registration and the completion of all enrollment forms including a current physical, up-to-date immunizations, and lead screening (for those under the age of 6). Prior to each semester’s enrollment, a registration fee of $10 per child (up to $25 per family) is charged.

Once enrolled, registration continues on a semester basis. A new contract is signed prior to each semester. Priority is given to children enrolled the previous semester.

Enrollment for the Children’s Learning Center begins the first day of registration for the semester’s college classes.

Days and hours of operation
Monday through Thursday,
7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed on Fridays during the summer.
Closed when college classes are not in session.
No evening hours during the summer.

Fees
The fees are reasonable, and we accept subsidized payments from agencies such as Action for Children and Child Care Initiative. For information on full-day rates or financial assistance, call (708) 709-3725 or visit prairiestate.edu/clc.
A Place to Learn
The Prairie State College (PSC) Children's Learning Center is a licensed facility providing quality education and care for children ages 2 to 12 years. Children age 2 to 5 years attend during the day and ages 3 to 12 years attend in the evening. Regularly scheduled part-time care is offered. The Children’s Learning Center also offers ongoing preschool screenings, parent workshops, and a toy-lending library. Advanced registration for services is required.

Accreditation
The Children's Learning Center has accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the nation's leading early childhood organization. The accreditation recognizes the program among the top programs in the nation. The CLC also holds a Silver Circle of Quality, an Illinois recognized level of quality.

The Facility
The center is housed in a facility at the northwest corner of PSC’s main campus. The building has four children’s classrooms, a college classroom, a gym/large motor development room, a secured outdoor playground, and kitchen.

Philosophy
By planning a developmentally appropriate environment, The Children’s Learning Center provides a place where children feel significant and successful. Our program emphasizes the value of play as the way children learn knowledge, skills and attitudes and encourages their development. The program is designed to encourage and enhance the whole child: physical, emotional, social, intellectual and creative development. The program uses a play-based curriculum that includes the Common Core and Illinois Early Learning and Developmental Standards.

Staff
The center teachers have a minimum of a bachelor's degree and the assistants have an associate degree. In addition to our staff, the center participates in the Foster Grandparent program, and serves as a practicum site for Early Childhood Education students from the college.

Nutrition
Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks are provided to all children enrolled during the times meals are served. The Children’s Learning Center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, which makes nutritionally balanced meals available to all children enrolled without regard to race, color, national origin, age, or ability.

Free Preschool
With space for up to 40 children, the Preschool For All (PFA) program (formerly Pre-Kindergarten) is free to those who qualify, and open to college students and their children as well as children in the community. Two sessions are available during the fall and spring semesters: a morning program from 9 to 11:30 a.m., and an afternoon program from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Wraparound childcare services are available on a limited basis, primarily for the morning session.

The PFA program is funded by a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education’s Childcare Block Grant.