Quality Assurances

**Licensing:** The SDSU Preschool Laboratory and the SDSU Out of School Time Program are licensed by the South Dakota Office of Child Care Services. The licensing process includes inspections for food safety, environmental safety, and fire safety. Both programs’ licenses are annually renewed.

**Accreditation:** The Fishback Center for Early Childhood Education is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs which is a branch of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). It has been accredited since 1989. The accreditation process is rigorous and upholds the standards of high quality early childhood education. There are over 430 standards to be met. NAEYC is the largest accrediting body and professional organization in early childhood education. Currently there are only 2 centers in the state that are accredited. The SDSU Kindergarten is the only kindergarten in the state to hold the accreditation. For more information see NAEYC’s website: [http://www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

As a teaching facility, the Early Childhood Education program is accredited by NCATE: [http://www.ncate.org](http://www.ncate.org).

**Food Service Policy:** All snacks for the Fishback Center for Early Childhood Education and OST Program breakfasts follow the USDA Child and Adult Nutrition Services Food Program. All snacks shall be nutritious using bran fiber, fresh foods when possible, and low in sugar. Snacks must include two of the four food groups: Fiber, meats, fruits and vegetables, and milk or milk alternative. All breakfasts will consist of a bran fiber, fruit, and milk.

**Safety Qualifications:** All personnel in the Fishback Center for ECE are required to be CPR and First Aid certified, including student teachers.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The Fishback Center for Early Childhood Education complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The facility has been renovated in order to be accessible. It is part of our philosophy to make reasonable accommodations necessary for children, family members, and college students to succeed.

**Mandated Reporting of Abuse and Neglect:** All personnel in the Fishback Center for ECE are considered to be mandated reporters. It is a requirement to report abuse and neglect for those who have actual knowledge of or who have reasonable cause to suspect sexual misconduct against a minor must report that information to the South Dakota Department of Social Services.

**Equal Opportunity – Affirmative Action:** The Fishback Center for Early Childhood Education is committed to providing Equal Employment Opportunity to all individuals and actively seeks qualified individuals who reflect the diverse population found in the community. Skills, knowledge, and abilities are appropriate factors to consider in the selection process. The following factors are irrelevant to successful job performance, and should not be considered in the assessment: race, color, national origin, marital/family status, religion, disability, sex, age, disabled and Vietnam Era Veterans.