Our Goals and Programs

At the UCLA Intervention Program our goals are:

• To provide educational and therapeutic services which promote development and quality of life for children and families.
• To assist parents and extended family members as they adapt to and plan for the unique needs of their young child.

The UCLA Intervention Program believes in and respects the uniqueness and potential of each child. Our vibrant classrooms and beautiful play yards create an exciting and supportive environment where there is always room to grow. By using a transdisciplinary approach, the team is able to formulate a comprehensive classroom plan tailored to the specific needs of each child.

Our programs are:

• **Play-based**, so children are relaxed, engaged, and motivated to show the full range of their skills and abilities
• **Child-directed**, so it encourages spontaneity and creativity and is easy to use in home-based settings
• **Strengths-focused**, assessing what children can do instead of what they cannot
• **Parent-friendly**, providing ongoing support, guidance, and information tailored to each family's unique need

Please contact us to find out when our next tour is being held:

Address:
UCLA Intervention Program
1000 Veteran Ave. Suite 23-10
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1797

Phone: (310) 825-4821
Fax: (310) 206-7744

About Us

History
The UCLA Intervention Program is a center-based early intervention program providing educational, diagnostic and therapeutic services to infants and toddlers with a wide range of developmental risks and disabilities. The program was established in 1952 and is part of the Developmental Studies Program in the Department of Pediatrics, Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA.

Philosophy
At the UCLA Intervention Program we view each child within the context of typical child development, believing they share the same needs as all children, as well as some that are uniquely their own. We feel it is important to attend to the needs of the whole child by addressing the areas of concern while also providing opportunities to nurture a child’s strengths.

Rationale for Early Intervention
Early Intervention can strengthen the potential for future success, including improved cognitive, behavioral, and emotional development, and further educational achievement. At the UCLA Intervention Program, we believe that learning is a process, and so we seek to discover each child’s unique learning style. Through helping children develop successful strategies for learning and providing opportunities to feel proud of their accomplishments, children expand their images of themselves as competent individuals open to life-long learning.

The UCLA Intervention Program encourages individual developmental progress and supports personal and social growth of children with programs that are caring and attentive to their needs.

Program Service

• Infant Services
• Toddler Program
• Individual Physical Therapy
• Let's Get Movin'
• Pollywog Pool Play Program
• Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Clinic
Who We Are
The UCLA Intervention Program’s team works closely with parents to design a Program Plan for their child. Our team includes the Medical Director (a pediatrician with a subspecialty in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics) and colleagues in the subspecialty, early childhood educators, physical and occupational therapists, assistant teachers and the director.

The UCLA Intervention Program’s team of professionals meets daily to prepare for each child’s activities based upon their individual educational plans. Our transdisciplinary team approach brings together each person’s expertise to more fully understand the whole child. This comprehensive process is then implemented to provide materials and activities that promote and motivate learning for each child in the classroom. The program operates on a year-round calendar.

What We Do
The Intervention Program’s services include:

Infant Services (birth to 18 months)
Infants (birth to 18 months) and their parents meet weekly with our team to tailor activities for each child’s specific needs. Our “mini” school day introduces the child and parent to a variety of experiences, including refinement of gross and fine motor skills through play-based activities, introduction to computer play, use of a variety of communication strategies, and practice in eating and drinking skills. Staff, parents, and children play and work together at stimulating and fun activities. Parents also make guided observations of their child’s unique strengths and competencies.

Toddler Program (18 to 36 months)
Our fun and stimulating classroom day immerses toddlers (18-36 months) in an enriched educational and therapeutic setting. The transdisciplinary staff values play as the natural way for young children to learn. The program’s activities motivate the children by encouraging them to experiment with objects and materials, to be goal-directed in their play, and to take pleasure in their own successes. These are the essential components of cognitive development. The teachers help the toddlers to interact—first with the adults most familiar to them and gradually with other children. Our beautiful play yards are an extension of the classroom experience. They are designed to provide an opportunity to practice gross and fine motor, sensory, language and social skills at all developmental levels. The natural setting includes swings, toddler climbing structures, a sand box, an accessible playhouse, and a riding path for practice with wheeled toys and adapted mobility. Children may attend this program three, four, or five mornings or afternoons per week, depending upon specific need.

Individual Physical Therapy
Physical therapy consultation, screening and assessment, and treatment are available for infants and children up to age five. PT services are provided by licensed physical therapists specializing in pediatric physical therapy. Children receive therapy in a specialized center with developmentally appropriate toys, materials, and therapeutic equipment, and we also train family members how to use this equipment at home.

Let’s Get Movin’—A Parent-and-Me Movement Group
Let’s Get Movin’ is a group sensory/motor class led by physical therapists and early childhood teachers. Children 18 to 48 months and their parents/caregivers participate in this exciting, safe, and child-friendly group atmosphere that is focused upon enhancing each child’s sensory and motor experiences. Children with and without special needs may be included. Physical and occupational therapists devise obstacle courses, movement games, and other sensory-motor experiences for both organized group activities and supervised, open-ended exploration.

Pollywog Pool Play Program
The UCLA Pollywog Pool Play Program meets weekly in a heated indoor therapy pool. Children learn the joy and pleasure of moving and playing in a gravity-free environment. Emphasis is “water play,” not “swimming.” Because the water is comfortably heated, the children quickly learn to relax, explore, and play easily. A variety of flotation devices is available. Children experience independent movement while in the water, and short periods of group activities (songs and games) provide for socialization. Each child is accompanied and closely supervised by an adult. Eligible children must be enrolled in the UCLA Intervention Program, and participation is at the discretion of the team and requires appropriate medical clearance.

Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Clinic
The UCLA Intervention Program benefits from having a developmental pediatrician as our medical director and leader of our multidisciplinary team. A developmental pediatrician is a physician with specialized training, certification and expertise to assess and consider the medical and psychosocial aspects of children’s developmental and behavioral problems. This specialized team member provides developmental and pediatric assessment, recommends management and treatment plans, and collaborates with members of the team and other professionals to coordinate care. Together, our team’s individual fields of specialization, enables us to work together with families to more effectively identify a child’s developmental strengths and areas of need so that services can be individualized.

On a case-by-case basis, the team will provide families with behavioral management plans to help address maladaptive/problem behaviors in young children.
Areas of Focus

Creativity
- Exploration of Self
- Experimentation
- Having fun

Cognition and Language
- Attention and Following Directions
- Language and Concepts
  "up, down, fast, slow, in, out, over, under"

Social/Emotional
- Awareness of Self and Others
- Taking Turns
- Self Esteem and Confidence

Sensory-Motor Skill
- Balance and Locomotor Skills
- Body Position Sense and Motor Planning
- Tactile Sensitivity and Discrimination
- Eye-Hand Coordination

How to Enroll

1. **Scheduling A Tour**
   Please call us at 310. 825. 4821 to arrange a date.

2. **Tour**
   During the tour you will
   a. be given an overview of the Program
   b. observe staff members and children at work
   c. visit our beautiful classrooms, therapy gym, large grassy play-yards, and more

   The tour lasts approximately an hour. This visit is designed to give you an opportunity to see our Program and decide if it would be a good match for your child and your family.

3. **Follow-up**
   The director will contact you and answer any additional questions you may have. If you are interested in enrolling your child in the UCLA Intervention Program, you will be given information on the authorization process with the Regional Center and we will send you our enrollment packet.

4. **First Hello**
   Your child’s teacher will call you to introduce him or her self and to arrange a date for the Meet-and-Greet.

5. **Meet-and-Greet**
   Before your child enters the Toddler or Infant Program, we would like to have the opportunity to get to know your child and your family during our Meet-and-Greet. The Meet-and-Greet will also give you an opportunity to get to know your child’s teacher and some other staff members in the class. We will ask you some questions about your child’s likes, dislikes, feeding, ways of soothing, ways of communicating and favorite play activities. We will also go some over Program information, answer any questions you may have, and discuss start date and the days of attendance.

Daily Schedule

- **Opening Circle**
  Children and parents take part in circle song time developing language, social skills, and group participation.

- **Free Play**
  Through various classroom activities, children develop in areas of cognition, language, and creativity.

- **Snack Time**
  Opportunity to practice feeding, self-help skills, language and group socialization.

- **Activity**
  Varies daily and includes such activities as cooking, art, and sensory play.

- **Potty**
  Opportunity to practice self-help skills.

- **Outside Time**
  Outside free play is an opportunity for social play, independent exploration and practice of gross motor skills.

- **Lunch**
  Practice feeding with possible use of adaptive plates and utensils.

- **Closing Circle**
  Children and parents participate in closing circle song time, marking the end of the school day.
DIRECTIONS TO UCLA INTERVENTION PROGRAM AT UCLA:

1. From the 405 San Diego Fwy, exit on Wilshire Blvd. east.
2. Turn LEFT onto Veteran Avenue.
3. Turn RIGHT onto Kinross Avenue.
4. Move to left turn lane at first light and turn LEFT. Turn into Structure P32 on your immediate right. The Pay-By-Space Machine southeast corner, level 1. ($1, $5, $10, quarters and $1 coins – Discover, Master & Visa cards accepted) Park in a numbered space and pay at the Pay-By-Space Machine.
5. Walk north towards Rehab Building, and enter through the double doors. Take the elevator to the second floor, turn right and walk to the last door on the left (Room 23-10).
Gifting to Our Program

Thank you for your interest in supporting the UCLA Intervention Program for Children with Disabilities.

The UCLA Intervention Program is a vital resource for children with special needs and their parents in the Los Angeles area. The Program has a long standing reputation for excellence and commitment to providing comprehensive services to children with a wide range of developmental risks and disabilities.

Donations to the UCLA Intervention Program will not only enhance the quality of our services, but they will help to ensure the continuation and promotion of innovation and excellence in early intervention.

We appreciate your generosity.

How You Can Make a Difference

Gifts to the UCLA Intervention Program may be made by calling the Development Office at (310) 267-1852.

Gifts by Credit Card

When making a gift by credit card, please go to http://giving.ucla.edu/interventionprogram and enter the requested information. You can also call the Development Office at (310) 267-1852, specify that your gift is for the UCLA Intervention Program, and provide them with your credit card information and our fund number 5349.

Gifts by Check

Your check, made payable to “The UCLA Foundation/UCLA Intervention Program” (include our fund number “62580o” on the memo line) with a note that it is for the UCLA Intervention Program may be sent to:

Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA c/o UCLA Health Sciences Development
10945 Le Conte Avenue, Suite 3132, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1784
Phone: (310) 267-1852

Words of Appreciation from Families

It is an outstanding program run by caring individuals. The program provides individual attention that focuses on each child’s developmental needs. We are very pleased with the stimulation that the program offers our child. – Anonymous –

UCLA Intervention Program has been very good for our twins. The staff is very caring and gentle with the children. I was especially impressed on the day of the earthquake. The staff calmly and efficiently gathered the children and took them to the pre-designated area. Both children have displayed growth in many areas and enjoy their experiences at school. – Billye Porter - grandmother –

The intervention program has been a critical element of our son’s overall therapy program. Its focus on emotional growth, age-appropriate play, and social interaction has been key to improving our son’s intellectual growth. Each week he exhibits a new skill and we have seen a dramatic improvement in his ability to interact with others and his environment. – Monika Jones - mother –

We saw clear improvement in our daughter’s development on a number of fronts within the first few weeks of her enrollment in the UCLA Early Intervention Program. What we noticed was not just the teacher’s high level of expertise, but also their extraordinary level of caring. – Anonymous –

We attribute a lot of our child’s growth and success to the amazing teachers and well structured curriculum. The expertise and patience of the staff is inspiring. It is easy to see how much they enjoy their profession. To us, the UCLA Intervention Program is invaluable. – The Gomez family –

My internationally adopted son (home at 14 months) entered the UCLA Early Intervention Program when he was 27-months-old with global delays. The nine months he spent at UCLA were incredible and a great supplement to traditional speech and occupational therapy as he was learning to apply all of his skills he learned in therapy into real world situations. The teachers are truly miracle workers! In a very loving and nurturing way, they managed to motivate him to work hard. He was excited to come to school every day to sing songs, manipulate puzzles, and play with friends. My son’s transition to preschool was easier than I could have ever hoped for and I believe this was entirely due to the dedication of the intervention program’s team of professionals. – A grateful mom from Sherman Oaks –

This program is simply magic! My son has improved beyond belief from fantastically dedicated teachers to beautiful play areas. I cannot recommend it highly enough. Wonderful. – Mother in Topanga –

You all feed these little angels with the right amount, that’s why they bloom. Bless you and thank you for your time, your energy and yourself. – Bita & Jamal – Seena-Sly, Sara-Skye