

THE
*where curiosity
begins place*
PLACE

Bridgeport YMCA

EARLY LEARNING BROCHURE
2026-2027



EARLY LEARNING

At the Y, we offer a safe, nurturing environment for infants, toddlers and children to learn and grow. The Y supports their social-emotional, cognitive and physical development. When you know your child is well cared for, you and your family have the opportunity to focus at work, plan healthy meals, enjoy family activities and establish a routine.

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

All kids have great potential. At the Y, we help set them on a path to learning. Children gain confidence as they recognize the Y as a place where they belong and can feel comfortable. Whether it's gaining the confidence that comes from learning new experiences, building positive relationships or participating in activities, it's about nurturing the whole child, from the inside out.

FOR HEALTHY LIVING

The Central Connecticut Coast YMCA is a leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of every child. For many, the Y is the starting point for children to develop healthy habits nutritionally and physically, that they'll carry with them throughout their lives. We understand that everyone needs to eat well and be physically active to live a full life and reach their potential, and this is especially important for children. Our experienced and caring staff, partners and volunteers model the positive core Y values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility that help build character. Our core values are woven throughout our early learning program to create a warm, nurturing, home away from home. Your child's growth, development and education are important to us, as we do our best to ensure their future is bright.

FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Family unity is strengthened in a child's ability to work and play together through events, workshops and family activities. Plus, everyone belongs at the Y. To ensure that all youth have the chance to participate, the Y offers financial assistance to those in need. Please talk with us to learn more. If you'd like to help send a child to child care, you can donate easily on our web site or at our Y location. We also participate in the State of CT Care4Kids program.

CONTACT US: BRIDGEPORT YMCA

A Branch of the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA
850 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604 | P: 203-334-5551 | F: 203-334-2847 | W: bridgeportymca.org

KOLBE EDUCATION CENTER
401 Kossuth St., Bridgeport, CT 06604 | P: 203-332-6447 | F: 203-394-6036 | W: bridgeportymca.org

OUR MISSION:

To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



TODDLER & PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

PROGRAM CREDENTIALS

Our Early Learning program is State licensed with the Office of Early Childhood (OEC), part of the Early Start CT Program, and NAEYC accredited. Partnerships are developed with families, schools and community to support the optimal development of each child.

PARTICIPANTS

Our Infant Program serves children ages 8 weeks to 2 years. Our Toddler Program is designed for children ages 1 to 3 years. Our Preschool Program supports children ages 3 to 5, providing a strong foundation for early learning and development. All Office of Early Childhood (OEC) licensing ratios are followed.

OUR CURRICULUM

Early Learning Experience Plans are aligned with Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards. Activities and materials are geared to the child's developmental level. We encourage individual abilities to enhance self-esteem. A combination of literacy, math, physical fitness, art, science and social studies is included in our programming. Active and engaging learning activities are planned. Classrooms are well-equipped for a wide range of developmental activities which meet curricular goals. Children are motivated to explore, manipulate, question, discover and express their needs through play, group and individual activities. Fun prevails as well as aligning with school day site themes.

HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (HEPA)

The Y follows a set of HEPA standards to build a healthier future for our children. Each day children run, jump, play games and are physically active; indoors and outdoors. Our Preschool Program also participates in the CACFP food program, serving breakfast, lunch, and PM snack.

EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS

Our staff are role models with a passion for working with children. All staff go through a rigorous interview process with reference and background checks before being offered employment. They are trained in First Aid/CPR, Medication Administration, Child Abuse recognition and prevention plus receive instructions related to child safety and development.

CONNECT TO THE Y

Join the Y and gain access to all of our full-facility Y Branches, discounted fees for youth programs, swim lessons and camp. Join as a family to participate in family nights, open swims and other events. Don't forget yourself! Adult members receive group exercise classes and more. Connect and get healthier together. Call the Y Branch for more information. Financial Assistance may be available.

PROGRAM LOCATION

- Bridgeport YMCA, 850 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604 (Preschool only)
- Kolbe Education Center, 401 Kossuth St., Bridgeport, CT 06608 (All ages)

OUR PROGRAM

Open year round; Monday – Friday with full-time options available. We incorporate the CT Dots and CT ELDs approach of emergent curriculum. Our relationship-based approach will be a collaboration between parents, teachers, and children. Through exploration and discovery, our program will be based on the principles of respect, responsibility, and community. Learning is a journey, education, and building of relationships. Our staff are CPR, First Aid, Medication administration and Epi-pen certified.

Infant Program (Eight Weeks to Two Years of Age): Sustain independent tummy time, stories, music and arts, monthly instructional movement, and exploration. State licensed 1:4 staff/child ratio.

Toddler Program (One to Three Years of Age): Sustained independent and group free play, stories, arts and crafts, monthly instructional gym and creative movement, and music. State licensed 1:4 staff/child ratio.

Preschool Program (Three to Five Years of Age): Children participate in a wide range of activities daily. Activities include weekly swim lessons, development of fine and gross motor skills, and more! We are proud to be helping youngsters gain self-confidence and social skills while developing positive attitudes about school and learning! This program also includes field trips. State licensed 1:10 staff/child ratio.

EXPANDED PROGRAMMING

Daily activities include music & movement, gross motor play in our indoor gym, outdoor playground free play (weather permitted), individualized sensory play, and so much more! Participants receive a swim lesson once a week to improve on water skills at no additional cost to parents.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our program is a State of Connecticut OEC licensed NAEYC accredited program. We are a year around, full day program operating Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-5:30PM. Programming is closed for all federally recognized holidays.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

A registration packet must be completed and signed to register your child for the Toddler and Preschool Programs. Program fees are determined by income for those who qualify! Payments are due at the beginning of the month prior to service. Tuition is based on 12 equal monthly payments, paid by MasterCard, Visa, or checking account. Enrollment materials are available for pick-up at the Bridgeport YMCA or Kolbe Education Center.

ENROLLMENT STEPS

Step 1: Pick-up a registration packet. **Step 2:** Fill out the registration forms. **Step 3:** Make sure you have all required forms.

Step 4: Drop-off forms at the Y.

2026 EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM FEES

YMCA Youth Membership	\$45/Monthly	N/A
<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>Y MEMBER</u>	<u>PROGRAM PARTICIPANT</u>
Infant Program	\$1,036	\$1,036
Toddler Program	\$1,036	\$1,036
Preschool Program	\$817	\$817



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