

Tierra Pacifica Charter School Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP)

The [Expanded Learning Opportunities Program](#) (ELOP) provides state funding for afterschool and summer enrichment programs serving students in transitional kindergarten (TK) through sixth grade.

“Expanded learning” refers to before-school, after-school, and intersession programs that support students’ academic, social, emotional, and physical development through engaging, hands-on learning experiences. The Legislature intends for expanded learning programs to be pupil-centered, results-driven, and developed in partnership with community organizations. These programs are designed to complement - rather than replicate - the regular school day and school year.

At Tierra Pacifica Charter School (TPCS), the primary goal of ELOP is to provide academic support, enrichment opportunities, and meaningful connections for students beyond the regular school day.

Eligible Students

ELOP serves students in grades TK–6. Enrollment is voluntary. Priority access is given to eligible students who include:

- Students from low-income households
- English learners
- Foster youth
- Students experiencing homelessness

Program Offerings

The Expanded Learning Opportunities Program provides a safe and enriching environment that includes:

- Academic support and tutoring
- Social-emotional learning activities
- Music and visual arts
- STEAM activities
- Sports, dance, and drama

The program begins at the end of the regular school day and runs until 6:00 p.m., offering a balance of academic support and engaging enrichment activities. TPCS partners with Sprouts Aftercare as its ELOP program provider.

What does ELOP include?

Under state law, ELOP access includes:

- Afterschool programming for 180 school days, and
- Up to 30 non-school intersession days (such as summer, spring break, and other school closure days)

Programs must support students' academic, social, emotional, and physical development through hands-on, engaging, and enriching learning experiences.

Can other students participate?

Yes. Families whose students do not meet the above criteria may still enroll, subject to availability, and are responsible for paying applicable program fees.

Who is Sprouts Aftercare and what do they offer?

Sprouts Aftercare is a licensed, school-based after-school care provider serving TK–6th grade students in the Santa Cruz area, including Tierra Pacifica Charter School.

Sprouts provides daily after-school supervision with a variety of age-appropriate activities that promote creativity, positive social interaction, youth voice and leadership, and community building. Students are also given opportunities to participate in tutoring and academic support as part of their after-school experience. The program offers a structured yet welcoming environment where children can learn, play, and explore new interests.

In addition to after-school care during the school year, Sprouts offers seasonal camps during summer, winter, and spring breaks, providing consistent care options for families year-round. Enrollment availability and program details may vary by location.

How can I learn more?

- To learn more about Sprouts Aftercare, contact them directly at sproutscruz@gmail.com
- To learn more about ELOP eligibility at Tierra Pacifica, please contact Kim Shankland at kshankland@tierrapacifica.org