# Oklahoma

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED\*

STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED\* (2014 DOLLARS)



klahoma began their Early Childhood Four-Year-Old Program in 1980, planning to ultimately serve all 4-years-olds in the state. In 1990, the program received statewide funding for 4-year-olds eligible for the federal Head Start program, but local areas could choose to serve additional 4-year-olds through local funds or tuition. In 1998, Oklahoma became the second state in the nation to provide free admission to preschool programs for all 4-year-olds. The program is now available in 99 percent of school districts, and registration in the Early Childhood Four-Year-Old Program has increased steadily. Since 2004, this program has been assessed for program impact/child outcomes in several studies, including an efficiency study in 2008 and an ongoing longitudinal study by Georgetown University.

Through the state's school finance formula, public school districts receive funding for the Early Childhood Four-Year-Old Program. A per-pupil rate, calculated using the age of the child and the length of the program day, is used to repay districts. Districts can support other centers by placing public school teachers in child care centers, Head Start settings, and community-based programs. Children in these sites receive the same services as children in public school locations, and are considered public school enrollees. State budget cuts across the board in education have affected early childhood education programs as well, and subsidy for the state pre-K program is amended proportionally with all other public school grade levels.

In addition, the Pilot Early Childhood Program, started in 2006, was funded in the 2010-2011 school year. Rules and regulations for this program are recognized by the Oklahoma State Board of Education; while funding comes from both public and private foundations. Services are delivered year-round to at-risk children, using annual contracts with the Community Action Project of Tulsa County.

During the 2011 Oklahoma state lawmaking session, the state's previous Reading Sufficiency Act was updated. New legislation to guarantee that all students are reading on grade level by the end of third grade, focusing on early intervention for children in pre-K, was considered. Specific requirements include showing a series of evaluations, studying literacy instruction from kindergarten through third grade, and offering intensive interventions (including an individualized reading plan and ongoing progress monitoring) to the students identified as having a reading deficit.

Over the next two years, Oklahoma will be revising its pre-K -12 standards for English Language Arts and Math.

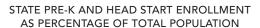
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCES RANKINGS		
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
ч	None Served	26	8	

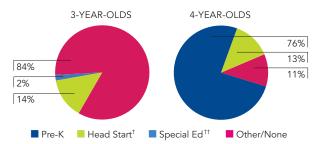
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### OKLAHOMA EARLY CHILDHOOD FOUR-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

# ACCESS

Total state program enrollment40,823	
School districts that offer state program98%	,
Income requirementNo income requirement	:
Hours of operation2.5-6 hours/day, 5 days/week	1
Operating scheduleAcademic year	
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 44,256	,
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 414,365	
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 40	)2





<sup>†</sup> Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K. <sup>††</sup> Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

# QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY Early learning standards Teacher degree Teacher specialized training	ВА	ВА		QUIREMENT NCHMARK?
Assistant teacher degree				
Teacher in-service	•	-		TOTAL
Maximum class size 3-year-olds 4-year-olds	NA	20 or lower		BENCHMARKS MET
Staff-child ratio 3-year-olds 4-year-olds	NA	1:10 or better		8
Screening/referral and support services	0	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service		
Meals	Lunch <sup>6</sup>	At least 1/day	$\checkmark$	
MonitoringSite	visits and other monitoring	Site visits		

### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$149,859,677
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,671²
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$7,678

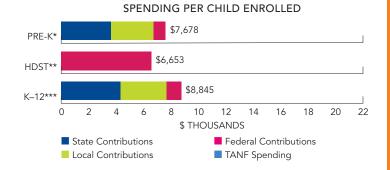
\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2013-2014 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '13-'14 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Programs have the option of operating a part-day or a school-day program or a combination of both within each district. Districts can choose to offer a longer day but will not receive state funding. Programs must be offered at least 175 days per year or 1080 hours per school year.

- <sup>2</sup> State Head Start funds are used to provide extended-day and additional services.
- <sup>3</sup> Teacher Assistants are only required to hold a high school diploma on GED diploma and pass the FBI criminal history check. However, if the teacher assistant is employed in a Title I school, s/he must be highly qualified using one of the following methods: 1. Hold an associate's degree or higher. 2. Complete at least two years or 48 credit hours of study at an institution of higher education 3. Pass the OGET (Oklahoma General Education Test) 4. Pass the ETS (Education Testing Service) ParaPro Assessment Test or the WorkKeys Assessment. About 67 percent of school sites are Title 1.



<sup>4</sup> Since at the 2010-2011 school year, professional development has not been required by the state. As per Oklahoma HB 2928, "A licensed or certified teacher shall not be required to complete any points of the total number of professional development points required." It is a local school district's decision how many hours of professional development are required. This benchmark has been removed retroactively.

<sup>5</sup> Support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, parent support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities. Programs must also offer, or make referrals for, other services including mental health services (counselor), health services (school nurse), and all other typical public school program services (such as early intervention, transition programs, and literacy coaches).

<sup>6</sup> At least one meal is provided through the Federal Child Nutrition Program. This federal program does not provide snacks for students, so snacks are determined locally.