

Hawaii

NO PROGRAM

Although Hawaii does not have a state-funded preschool initiative which meets the criteria set forth in this report, several initiatives providing early learning services receive funding from the state.

The Preschool Open Doors Project began providing subsidy payments to low-income parents in the early 1980s. These payments allowed them to purchase preschool services for their 4-year-olds and, on a case-by-case basis, to 3-year-olds with special needs. Payments are made directly to a service provider, although parents select their child's provider. Families are eligible if their income is below 85 percent of the state median income. Since children can be deemed ineligible after initially qualifying, as family income is reassessed every 6 months, the Preschool Open Doors Project serves less as a dedicated preschool education program and more as a support for working families.

In 2002, Hawaii began supporting construction of preschool facilities at public school sites through the Pre-Plus Program. While seventeen Pre-Plus facilities have been constructed since the program's inception, there is currently no funding available for further construction. The Pre-Plus Program does not directly fund educational services for children.

Another initiative, Junior Kindergarten, launched in 2006-2007, and is an educational program for children. The program is for children who are age eligible for kindergarten, but turn 5 after July 31, which would make them among the youngest children in kindergarten. Kindergarten age-eligible children may also enroll in Junior Kindergarten if school assessments indicate they are not developmentally ready for kindergarten. Child may attend either kindergarten or first grade after completing one year of Junior Kindergarten, depending on individual program practices and a child's readiness.

Hawaii introduced Keiki First Steps, a statewide early learning system, in July 2008. This program provides a variety of early learning opportunities for children from birth until kindergarten entry. An Early Learning Council was also established to develop and administer the early learning system. The council would also establish the Keiki First Steps Grant Program as well as promote the creation of additional early learning facilities.

Preschool education is also available to four-year-olds with a disability through Special Education Preschool. This half-day program is meant to improve the school readiness of 4-year-olds who have been diagnosed with disabilities which could negatively impact learning in kindergarten.

Additionally, the state Department of Education is currently piloting preschool programs at two elementary schools. These programs do not have an income requirement and eligibility is determined through a lottery. Four-year-olds students would attend a preschool classroom in the same school where they will enroll in kindergarten.

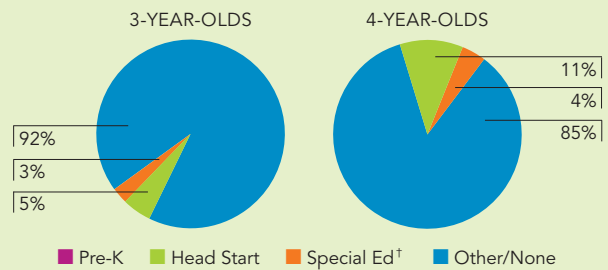
ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	0
School districts that offer state program	NA
Income requirement	NA
Hours of operation	NA
Operating schedule	NA
Special education enrollment	1,508
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	2,674
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$0
Local match required?	NA
State spending per child enrolled	\$0
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$0

* 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 2009-2010 year includes funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '09-'10 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

