The Washington Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) was established in 1985 in response to evidence that early education and family support build a stronger, more competitive workforce. ECEAP is overseen by the state Department of Early Learning (DEL), which works with the nonprofit organization Thrive by Five Washington to coordinate and fund programs to improve school readiness. This program was evaluated for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes in the 2003-2004 year.

ECEAP is offered in both public and private settings, including educational service districts, public school districts, local governments, nonsectarian organizations, community and technical colleges, and nonprofit organizations. The initiative primarily serves 4-year-olds from families at or below 110 percent of the federal poverty level, though up to 10 percent of slots may be filled by children whose families are over the income cutoff if there are developmental and environmental risk factors present.

Enrollment is also available to some 3-year-olds who meet other risk factors. Starting in the 2010-2011 school year, children who qualify for special education due to a disability will be eligible for ECEAP, regardless of the family’s income level.

ECEAP provides a number of services to children and families in the program beyond preschool education, including nutrition, health services coordination, family support, social service referrals, and parent involvement as well as medical and dental treatment. Through these services, ECEAP seeks to increase children’s social-emotional, physical, and pre-academic skills while building families’ capacities to support their children’s success.

In the 2009-2010 school year, children and their families in 38 of the state’s 39 counties participated in ECEAP. There was a loss of 173 slots from the previous year due to a state budget cut. For 2010-2011, an additional 29 slots will be cut, which is equal to the increase in preschool Head Start slots funded by ARRA during these years. The state plans to expand slots from 2013 to 2018 in order to allow all eligible children to enroll.
WASHINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ECEAP)

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment ........................................... 8,026
School districts that offer state program ................. 97% (counties)
Income requirement ........................................... 90% of children must be at or below 110% FPL
Hours of operation ........................................... Determined locally
Operating schedule ........................................... Academic year
Special education enrollment ................................... 8,032
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .................. 11,632
State-funded Head Start enrollment ....................... 321

Total state pre-K spending .................................... $54,716,348
Local match required? .......................................................... No
State Head Start spending .................................. Not reported
States spending per child enrolled .................................. $6,817
All reported spending per child enrolled* ...................... $6,817

Total state program enrollment ........................................ 8,026
School districts that offer state program ................. 97% (counties)
Income requirement ........................................... 90% of children must be at or below 110% FPL
Hours of operation ........................................... Determined locally
Operating schedule ........................................... Academic year
Special education enrollment ................................... 8,032
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .................. 11,632
State-funded Head Start enrollment ....................... 321

TOTAL BENMARKS MET

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>AA or BA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>30 quarter units in ECE</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>CDA or 12 quarter credits in ECE</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher in-service</td>
<td>15 clock hours</td>
<td>At least 15 hours/year</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year-olds</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:9</td>
<td>1:9</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>At least 1 meal*</td>
<td>At least 1/day</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .................................... $54,716,348
Local match required? .......................................................... No
State Head Start spending .................................. Not reported
State spending per child enrolled ....................... $6,817
All reported spending per child enrolled* ...................... $6,817

* 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.

1 In 2009-2010, 94 percent of children enrolled met the income requirement.
2 Beginning in 2008-2009, a minimum of 320 classroom hours per year is required. A typical program may meet 3 hours per day, 4 days per week, through the school year. Programs must operate for a minimum of 30 weeks per year.
3 This number represents estimated funding slots in Head Start as reported by ACF. According to the Head Start State Collaboration Office, Washington does not provide any supplemental funds, aside from a state match.
4 Teachers with a BA must also be certified with an endorsement in ECE (Pre-K-3) or EC Special Education.
5 Support services include 3 hours of parent conferences, 3 hours of one-on-one family support services, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities, in addition to other support services.
6 Programs of fewer than 3 hours must provide breakfast or lunch. An additional snack or meal must be offered for programs lasting more than 3 hours.

1 This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.