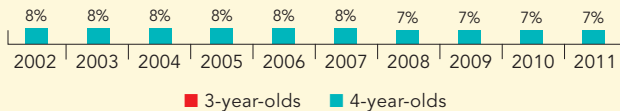
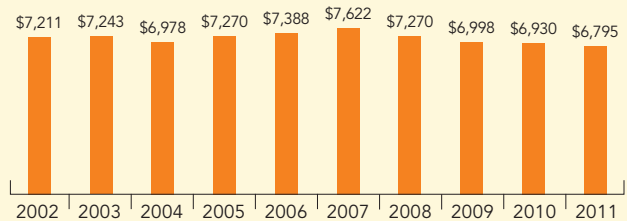


# Delaware

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2011 DOLLARS)



Delaware's Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP) was established in 1994 to expand access to comprehensive early childhood services for 4-year-olds who are income-eligible for Head Start. Modeled after the federal Head Start program, ECAP requires participating programs to follow federal Head Start Performance Standards. Ninety percent of enrolled children must come from families whose income is at or below 100 percent of the federal poverty level while 10 percent of available slots must be provided for children with disabilities. Regulations in the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007 allow programs to enroll and count as income-eligible up to 35 percent of their funded enrollment from children living in households with incomes at 100 to 130 percent of the federal poverty level.

ECAP grantees are chosen based on the Community Needs Assessment data, and funding is distributed to Head Start agencies, private and faith-based centers, public schools, and for-profit child care. There have been no increases in ECAP funding since 2007 as a result of the state's fiscal condition.

The ECAP program uses Teaching Strategies GOLD, a web-based assessment, to monitor the progress of enrolled children. The ECAP program was evaluated for program impact/child outcomes through the 2008 Child Outcomes Study.

Delaware's early learning standards, the Delaware Early Learning Foundations: Preschool, were adopted in 2003. Revised in 2010, these foundations are aligned with K-12 performance indicators and standards as well as the Common Core standards. The state is also in the process of implementing a quality rating improvement system (QRIS) for early childhood programs with programs voluntarily participating, though a minimum rating is not currently required as the QRIS is not available in all settings. Delaware is creating a professional development system for preschool educators aligned with the state's K-12 professional development standards. ECAP programs participate in high-quality professional development opportunities provided by the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood, the state's cross-sector early childhood professional development system.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
32	None Served

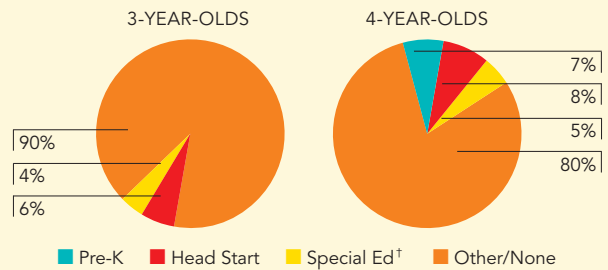
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
6	12

# DELAWARE EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ECAP)

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	843
School districts that offer state program .....	100% (counties)
Income requirement .....	90% of children must be at or below 100% FPL <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operation .....	At least 3.5 hours/day, 5 days/week <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally
Special education enrollment .....	1,325
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	1,572
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	843 <sup>3</sup>

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 state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards .....	Comprehensive .....	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	CDA <sup>4</sup> .....	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Meets CDA requirements .....	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD <sup>4</sup> .....	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	18 clock hours .....	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....	.....	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....	.....	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, .....	Vision, hearing, health; and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
and support services	developmental; and support services <sup>5</sup>	at least 1 support service	
Meals .....	At least one meal and snack .....	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring .....	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**8**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$5,727,800
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$5,727,800 <sup>6</sup>
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$6,795
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$6,795

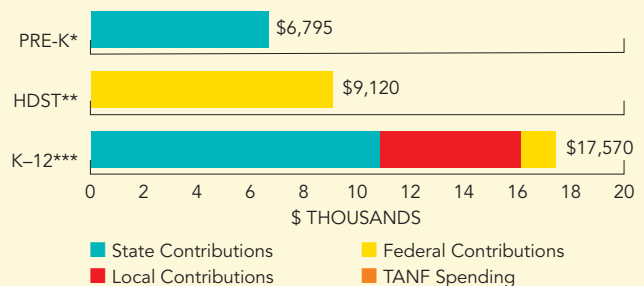
\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending for the 2010-2011 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 '10-'11 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> State pre-K children must meet the federal Head Start income guidelines. Effective as of 2007, 35 percent of enrollment may be children whose family incomes are between 100 and 130 percent FPL after priority is given to children at or below 100 percent FPL.

<sup>2</sup> If programs choose to operate longer than 3.5 hours per day, they must fund the additional portion themselves. Some programs align with the school year.

<sup>3</sup> This number represents ECAP enrollment. All state-funded Head Start enrollment is through ECAP.

<sup>4</sup> ECAP follows the Head Start Performance Standards. The Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007 requires that by 2011, all teachers must have at least an AA; by 2013, 50 percent must have at least a BA. By 2013, all assistant teachers must have at

least a CDA or be enrolled in a program to receive a CDA, AA, or BA within two years. Teachers in nonpublic programs must meet Delaware Office of Child Care Licensing requirements of nine college credits in EC, a CDA, or the state-approved courses Training Early Care and Education I and II.

<sup>5</sup> Support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for parents and children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, transition to kindergarten activities, and mental health consultation.

<sup>6</sup> ECAP is a state-funded Head Start model. All state pre-K spending is therefore directed toward Head Start programs.