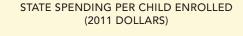
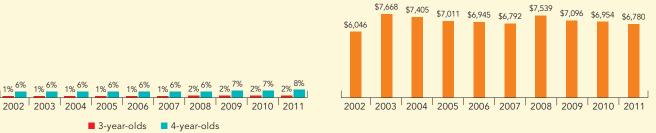
Washington







n response to evidence that early education and family support build a stronger, more competitive workforce, the Washington Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) was established in 1985. The Department of Early Learning (DEL) oversees ECEAP and works with the nonprofit organization Thrive by Five Washington and the state Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to coordinate programs to improve school readiness.

ECEAP is offered in a variety of public and private settings, including those run by educational service districts, public school districts, nonsectarian organizations, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community and technical colleges. While most children served are 4-year-olds from families at or below 110 percent of the federal poverty level, up to 10 percent of slots may be filled by children whose families are over the income cutoff if there are environmental and developmental risk factors present. Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, children who qualify for special education due to a disability were eligible for ECEAP regardless of family income. Some 3-year-olds with risk factors may also enroll.

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

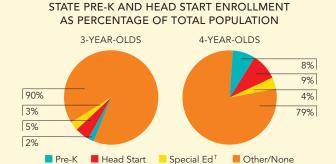
During the 2010-2011 school year, children and families in 37 of the state's 39 counties participated in ECEAP. The 2011-2012 year will provide an additional 367 slots. The state selected Teaching Strategies GOLD to use as the statewide ECEAP child assessment tool beginning in the 2012-13 school year.

ACCESS RANKINGS				
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS			
31	17			

RESOURCES RANKINGS				
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING			
7	13			

WASHINGTON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ECEAP)

ACCESS

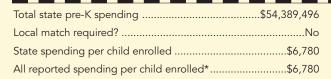


 † This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

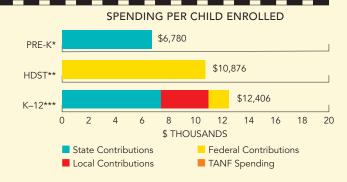
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	✓*	
Teacher degree	AA²	BA		
Teacher specialized training	30 quarter units in ECE ²	Specializing in pre-K	\checkmark	
Assistant teacher degreeCD	A or 12 quarter credits in ECE	CDA or equivalent	V	
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	✓	TOTAL
Maximum class size		20 or lower	\checkmark	BENCHMARKS MET
3-year-olds 4-year-olds				- Ma
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	✓	9
3-year-olds 4-year-olds				-
Screening/referral and support services develo			✓	
Meals	At least 1 meal ⁴	At least 1/day	V	
MonitoringS	ite visits and other monitoring	Site visits	V	

RESOURCES



- * 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.



A minimum of 320 classroom hours per year is required, and each class session must be at least 2.5 hours long. A typical program may meet 3 hours per day, 3 or 4 days per week, through the school year.

² Lead teachers must have an AA or higher with the equivalent of 30 credits in early childhood education or have valid state teaching certification with an endorsement in ECE (Pre-K-3) or EC Special Education.

³ Support services include parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁴ 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.