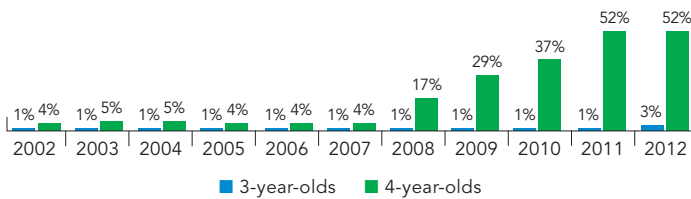
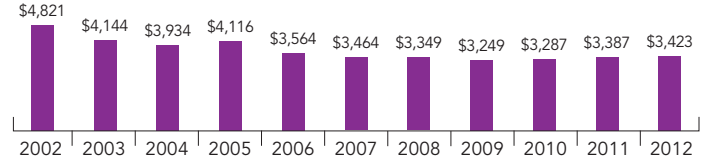


# Iowa

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2012 DOLLARS)



Iowa funds two state pre-K programs, Shared Visions and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SVPP). Established in 1989, Shared Visions serves 3- to 5-year-olds in part-, school-, or extended-day programs with locally determined operating schedules. The competitive grants are available to private agencies, Head Start programs, public schools, and faith-based centers (without funding religious content), and subcontracting is allowable within the same type of settings. At least 80 percent of children in the program have to be eligible to receive free lunch while up to 20 percent of students in each classroom are eligible for the program based on other risk factors. Some typical risk factors are low birth weight, homelessness, having a teen parent, having a parent with a substance abuse problem, or developmental delay. However, children from over-income families may be served using a sliding payment scale.

New legislation in 2011 gave grantees more flexibility in serving children ages 3 to 5 years old. Prior to this change, funding was required to stay categorical at the program level so a program that had originally applied and been approved to serve 4-year-olds could use this funding only for this age group. Under the new legislation, a program that originally received funding to serve 4-year-olds is now able to use that funding for children between the ages of 3 and 5.

Due to flat funding from 1995 to 2007, some Shared Visions grantees cut services or shortened program days, while other programs increased their use of local funds to offset these losses. Iowa increased funding levels for the program by 2 percent in fiscal year 2008, but the program experienced a 10 percent cut in the 2009-2010 program year. While funding from other sources has increased, the state allocation to the program remained flat in the 2010-2011 program year and decreased during the 2011-2012 school year.

With a multi-year study ending in 2008, Shared Visions was evaluated for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes. The state began providing GOLD assessment training in the spring of 2011, and all Shared Visions programs are required to use this assessment tool as of the 2011-2012 school year. During the 2011-2012 school year, the state Department of Education completed a project to assign each child served across program auspices with a unique child identification number.

SVPP was launched in the 2007-2008 program year to expand pre-K access to all 4-year-olds in the state. By the 2010-2011 school year, the program included 90 percent of districts in the state, serving more than 20,000 4-year-old children. Residency in the district in which the children attend preschool is not a requirement. SVPP programs are required to serve children a minimum of 10 hours per week. A task force report recommended that all SVPP programs begin using the GOLD assessment tool by the 2013-2014 school year; approximately 85 percent of districts were using GOLD as their pre-K assessment tool as of the 2011-2012 program year.

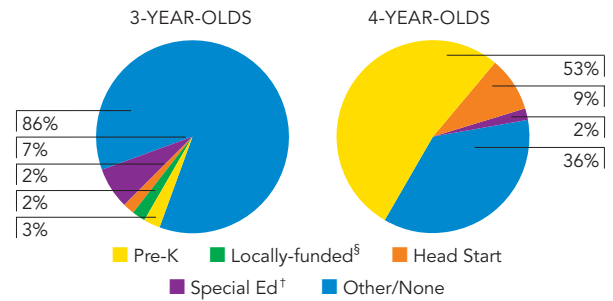
The preschool funding formula provides funding for 4-year-olds in SVPP programs. However, 3- and 5-year-olds may enroll in the program using a combination of tuition, local dollars, and/or funding from other sources. Public schools are the recipients of direct funding through SVPP, yet they are able to subcontract with Head Start agencies as well as faith-based and private child care centers. During the 2011-2012 school year, the pre-K portion of the school funding formula was reduced from 60 percent of the K-12 per-student allocation to 50 percent, resulting in decreased funding for SVPP.

Iowa's overall contributions and commitment to state prekindergarten, including state spending and enrollment for both Shared Visions and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, are documented in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses solely on the Shared Visions program while the final page presents specific details about the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program.

## STATE OVERVIEW

Total state program enrollment .....	22,933
Total state spending .....	\$78,490,486
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,423
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,925

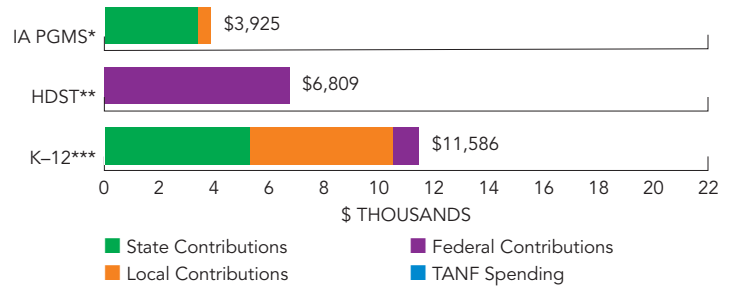
### STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



<sup>§</sup>These are children served in SVPP programs through local and federal funds.

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

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



\* 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 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

#### ACCESS RANKINGS

4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
7	17

#### RESOURCES RANKINGS

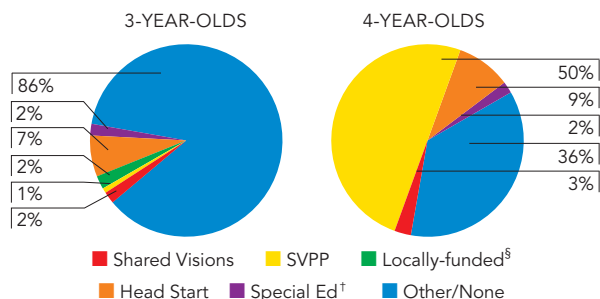
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
26	26

## IOWA SHARED VISIONS

### ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	1,810
School districts that offer state program .....	9% <sup>1</sup>
Income requirement.....	80% of children must be below 130% FPL
Hours of operation .....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally
Special education enrollment .....	4,198
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	6,517
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

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



§These are children served in SVPP programs through local and federal funds.  
 † 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 .....	BA (public); AA (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	EC endorsement with or without SpEd, Pre-K-K (public); AA in ECE or CD (nonpublic) <sup>3</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	6 credit hours/5 years (public); None (nonpublic) <sup>4</sup>	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	18 <sup>5</sup>		
4-year-olds .....	20 <sup>5</sup>		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:8		
4-year-olds .....	1:8		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Lunch and snack <sup>7</sup>	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Other monitoring <sup>8</sup>	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

6

### RESOURCES

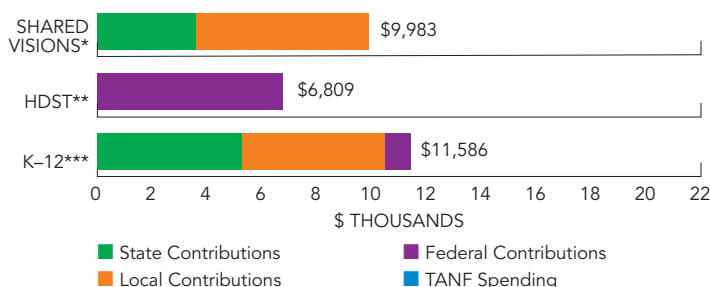
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$6,540,233
Local match required? .....	Yes, 20% of total grant amount
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,613
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$9,983

\* 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 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> In addition, 33 classrooms are offered by 13 of Iowa's 18 Head Start grantees, and 12 are offered in child care centers.

<sup>2</sup> In the 2011-2012 school year, Shared Visions programs blended with SVPP and Head Start programs to increase hours in order to meet the needs of children and families. SVPP funds may be used to provide a school- or extended-day to children program if at least 10 hours of instruction by an early childhood endorsed teacher are added and the program meets NAEYC standards.

<sup>3</sup> Teachers in nonpublic settings follow NAEYC standards, which require a minimum of an AA in ECE or CD. A small percentage of teachers in nonpublic settings may have a CDA provided they are working toward meeting the minimum requirement of an AA.

<sup>4</sup> Certified teachers employed in school district programs must renew their licenses every five years, including 6 credit hours of training. Head Start grantees must follow federal Head Start requirements of 15 hours of professional development per year. There is no specific

requirement for the amount of in-service training for the remaining grantees, although the year-end report indicates all lead teachers have an average of 43 hours of staff development.

<sup>5</sup> Mixed classrooms with 3- and 4-year-olds must not exceed the maximum group size of 18.

<sup>6</sup> Additional support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and family nights.

<sup>7</sup> Applicants for Shared Visions funding are required through their grant applications to address meals and meet the requirements of NAEYC accreditation. The specific meals offered depend on the hours of operation but are required by NAEYC criteria.

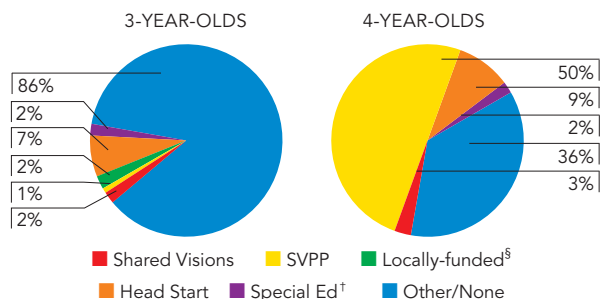
<sup>8</sup> All Shared Visions programs receive a site visit by NAEYC once every five years as part of their NAEYC accreditation.

# IOWA STATEWIDE VOLUNTARY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	21,123
School districts that offer state program .....	90%
Income requirement.....	None
Hours of operation .....	Part-day, 10 hours/week <sup>1</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	4,198
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	6,517
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

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



<sup>§</sup>These are children served in SVPP programs through local and federal funds.  
<sup>†</sup> 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 .....	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Birth–grade 3 SpEd, Birth–grade 3, Pre-K–K	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree.....	CDA or Iowa Paraeducator certificate <sup>2</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	18		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:9		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Snack <sup>5</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring <sup>6</sup>	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**7**

## RESOURCES

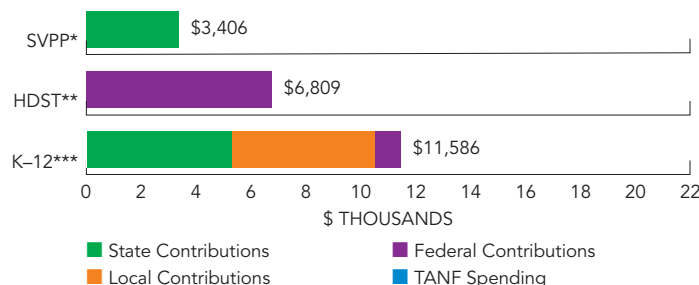
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$71,950,253 <sup>7</sup>
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,406
All reported spending per child enrolled*.....	\$3,406

\* 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 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> Programs operate 10 hours per week, at least 3 days per week, with most operating 4 days per week. Some districts blend funding sources and work with collaborative partners to provide at least 12 hours per week.

<sup>2</sup> Assistant teachers should have either a CDA or an Iowa Paraeducator certificate. The certificate requires 90 hours of generalized education courses plus 45 hours of ECE- specific training. Assistants may be hired with only a high school diploma and must immediately enroll in a CDA program, but there is no timeline to obtain the CDA.

<sup>3</sup> State policy requires professional development but does not specify hours. Districts report the number of hours annually with SVPP teachers having 15 clock hours of professional development in the 2011-2012 school year.

<sup>4</sup> Support services include parent conferences and/or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, nutrition information, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>5</sup> Additional meals must be provided if the program is longer than 10 hours per week.

<sup>6</sup> Programs are visited during their second year of operation and then again every five years.

<sup>7</sup> The state cut the pre-K percentage of the school funding formula from 60 percent to 50 percent. Special education funding for the 1,390 children on instructional IEPs and served through SVPP during the 2011-2012 school year was \$13,387,930.