While Indiana did not have a state-funded pre-K program in the 2012-2013 school year, the state had made recent investments in improving early childhood education opportunities.

The Early Education Matching Grant (EEMG) is a competitive grant program meant to increase the enrollment of low-income (up to 100% FPL) 4-year-olds in high-quality pre-K programs. Eligible applicants include licensed and registered child care programs receiving a level 3 or level 4 rating on Paths to QUALITY, Indiana’s voluntary quality rating and improvement system. The program, run by the Family and Social Services Administration, will issue its first round of funds in July 2014. The program will distribute $2 million to serve both full-day and part-day preschoolers, with a 50 percent local match required. Grantees must meet a number of eligibility requirements, including having lead teachers with a Bachelors degree.

In 2014, the state also created a pilot pre-K program to be administered by the Bureau of Child Care in the Family and Social Services Administration, with collaboration from the state Department of Education. While the details of the program are still in development, it will serve children in 5 counties in community-based settings. There will be a matching funds requirement, to be determined. The bill creating the program also requires a study of the pilot to track outcomes and further develop parameters for early childhood education in Indiana. The state Early Learning Advisory Committee also has oversight over both pre-K funding opportunities.

Indiana released revised Foundations to the Indiana Academic Standards for Young Children from Birth to Age 5 in 2012 and will begin another revision in 2014. The standards cover multiple domains, including physical well-being/motor development; social-emotional development; approaches toward learning; language development; and cognition and general knowledge. The upcoming revision of the Foundations will include a focus on ensuring they are linguistically and culturally appropriate for all students.

Indiana is also a participant in the Kindergarten Entry Assessment Consortium, created by Maryland and Ohio as part of their Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenges proposals, in an “advisory member” role.

A report from the U.S. Department of Education indicate that at least 8,938 general education students were enrolled in district-operated preschool programs in the 2011-2012 school year.
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 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the ’12-’13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

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 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the ’12-’13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

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 .............................................. 10,719
Federally funded Head Start enrollment ............................... 12,283
State-funded Head Start enrollment ....................................... 0

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT

AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION

3-YEAR-OLDS 4-YEAR-OLDS

90% 9%
5% 6%
5% 85%

Pre-K Head Start Special Ed† Other/None

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

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $0
HDST** $6,694
K-12*** $11,667

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22
$ THOUSANDS

State Contributions Federal Contributions
Local Contributions TANF Spending