While North Dakota does not provide state-funded pre-K as defined in this report, the Department of Public Instruction addresses early childhood education in several initiatives. The state provides two early childhood grant opportunities for educators and school districts. Early Childhood Continuing Education Grants provide support for preschool, childcare, and Head Start teachers and assistant teachers to enhance their credentials at North Dakota state colleges and universities. Early Childhood Environment Grants provide up to $5,000 to establish, support, or enhance new or expanded early childhood environments.

The North Dakota Pre-kindergarten Content Standards, published in 2013, cover multiple domains including: physical well-being and motor development; social-emotional development; approaches toward learning; language development; and cognitive and general knowledge. The standards, which are voluntary, were aligned with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework as well as the state’s standards for kindergarten. The state also provides professional development opportunities aligned with these standards for early childhood professionals.

North Dakota is a member of a consortium that received an Enhanced Assessment Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support the development of a kindergarten entry assessment. The Department of Public Instruction was charged with the task of conducting a legislatively mandated study on early childhood care and education in the state of North Dakota, to be delivered to the Legislative Management Council in June 2014.

Data from the U.S. Department of Education indicate that at least 1,107 general education students were enrolled in district-operated preschool programs in the 2011-2012 school year.
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 ..................................................1,045
Federally funded Head Start enrollment ....................................2,702
State-funded Head Start enrollment ........................................0

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.