The state of New Hampshire supports early childhood education through several measures, although it does not have a state-funded pre-K program that meets the criteria of this report. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) oversees early education and care services for children from birth through 5 years. The department licenses early childhood programs and administers preschool scholarships through its child care assistance program for families with low incomes.

The Department of Education’s (DOE) oversight does not begin until kindergarten, but it does oversee the provision of early childhood special education and monitors progress monitoring of voluntary Title I preschool programs, which were supported in 2013-2014 with $1.2 million dollars of Title I funds. The DOE also oversees early childhood teacher licensure endorsement for birth through grade three. Additionally, the New Hampshire Early Childhood and After School Professional Development System at the New Hampshire DHHS Child Development Bureau offer voluntary credentials and endorsements for professionals serving young children and their families. A variety of stakeholders are collaborating to align birth-through-age-8 efforts, including DHHS, DOE, and the Spark New Hampshire Early Childhood Advisory Council. These groups, along with private partners, collaborated to submit the state’s Race to the Top Application, which, although unsuccessful, will help guide future early childhood systems-building efforts in New Hampshire.

In 2005, the New Hampshire Early Learning Guidelines were introduced. The guidelines address development and learning for children birth through 5 years covering: physical development, social and emotional development, approaches to learning, creative expression and aesthetic development, communication and literacy development, and health and safety. The guidelines are aligned with both New Hampshire’s K-12 Curriculum Frameworks and New Hampshire Kindergarten Readiness Indicators. The new Early Learning Standards, which will be released in 2015, will align with the New Hampshire College and Career Ready Standards by expanding to include emergent literacy, early numeracy, and science and social studies.

The New Hampshire Quality Rating and Improvement System, administered by the Child Development Bureau within the Department of Health and Human Services, is presently under revision. Categories of standards in the proposed revision include: Curriculum, Environment, and Assessment; Engaging Families and Communities as Partners; Early Childhood Administrator and Educator Qualifications; Measured Standards of Environmental Quality and Teacher-Child Interactions using the Environmental Rating Scale (ERS) and Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), respectively.

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<td>3-YEAR-OLDS</td>
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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.