

# Idaho

## NO PROGRAM

While Idaho does not provide state-funded pre-K, it does invest in early education through other means. To provide additional slots in Head Start and Early Head Start, the state channels \$1.5 million in TANF funds into a Head Start supplement. The funds typically average an addition of 200 Head Start slots, though the number varies based on how many slots are in the more expensive Early Head Start program. In 2015, the Idaho Falls EICAP Head Start and Early Head Start Program received \$1.2 million startup funds and \$1.8 million operational funds to serve 72 Early Head Start children, birth to age 3, in a center-based model. In 2015, legislation authorizing Pay for Success contracts was passed in Idaho. Pay for Success allows for private funders to invest in scaling up social programs so that their impact can be far greater. The Lee Pesky Learning Center is seeking support from the State Department of Education to move forward with this authority to provide early literacy programs for students in a pre-K setting.

Idaho's Early Learning eGuidelines were revised and updated in 2013. The Guidelines cover many different aspects of early learning, including: approaches to learning and cognitive development; motor development, physical well-being, and health; social-emotional development; general knowledge; and communication, language, and literacy. The document provides guidance through third grade for approaches to learning, cognition, and social and emotional development; however, the rest provide guidance from birth through kindergarten. The eGuidelines have been cross-walked with the Idaho Core Standards, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards, and the Head Start Child Outcome Framework.

The Idaho STARS quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for child-care providers is a multi-agency collaboration. The system also assists child-care providers in increasing their knowledge and skills in early care and education through a Professional Development System (PDS). Idaho STARS meets the goals set in the Early Learning Guidelines, and participation in the QRIS is voluntary.

To plan for the future, in 2015 Idaho convened a group of statewide early childhood leaders to organize an Early Childhood Steering Committee. The group was intentionally kept small to increase efficacy and efficiency. The committee met monthly to work on a mission and purpose statement and to answer some bigger questions. The questions were: (1) What would ideal early (learning) education look like? (2) What is the school readiness culture we aspire to create? (3) What pieces need to be in place and in which order? The Committee has drafted a legislative bill to give Idaho parents choices regarding how to get their children ready to learn by kindergarten and to provide more children access to high-quality, inclusive, early learning environments, which will be presented in the 2016 legislative session.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

POLICIES TO SUPPORT	
DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS	WORKFORCE
No Program	

## 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 .....	1,808
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	3,080
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	115

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

## RESOURCES

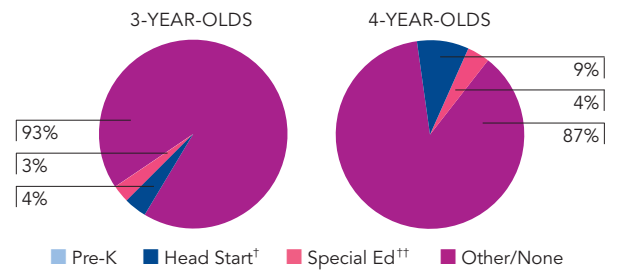
Total state pre-K spending .....	\$0
Local match required? .....	NA
State Head Start spending .....	\$1,500,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$0
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$0

\* 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 2014-2015 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 '14-'15 school year, unless otherwise noted.

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



† Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K.  
 †† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

