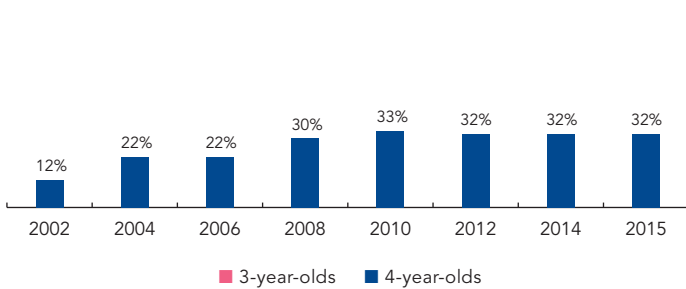
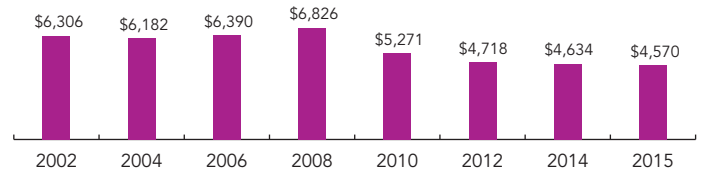


Louisiana

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED*



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED*
(2015 DOLLARS)



The 8(g) Student Enhancement Block Grant Program was created in order to make up for the loss of the Model Early Childhood Program when matching annual appropriations for the program ended. Local school districts began using the 8(g) Block Grant Program to offer preschool programs to at-risk 4-year-olds. In the 2014-2015 school year, 66 of 70 districts were using the 8(g) block grants, providing prekindergarten programs to 2,261 children. Enrollment priority is given to children from low-income families; children are qualified for the program if they are at risk of being “insufficiently ready for the regular school program.” To meet the initial goal, Louisiana operates two other state-funded preschool programs alongside the 8(g).

Louisiana’s largest pre-K program, The Cecil J. Picard LA4 Early Childhood Program (formerly LA4 and Starting Points) was established in 2001. In the 2014-2015 school year, 16,171 4-year-olds were enrolled. The LA4 program serves children in public schools, charter schools, and one tribal school.

Also established in 2001, the Non-Public Schools Early Childhood Development program (NSECD) implemented a goal of reimbursing preschool tuition for enrolled children from families with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level. With the implementation of Act 3 and the unification of Louisiana’s preschool programs, preschool tuition is now reimbursed for families at 185% of the federal poverty level. Programs operate in 16 parishes throughout the state, though all parishes have the opportunity to participate.

An assessment of process quality and program impact/child outcomes for Louisiana’s three pre-K programs was conducted by the Cecil J. Picard Center for Child Development and Learning at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in 2012-2013. A 2014-2015 evaluation is currently in process for the NSECD program.

During the 2012 session, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 3, unifying multiple early childhood initiatives under the direction of the Department of Education in collaboration with other state agencies. This system will contain aligned program standards; a quality rating and improvement accountability system, in which all programs receiving state and/or federal funds will be required to participate; a unified professional development system; birth-through-five early learning and development standards; and a cross-agency integrated data system. In July 2013, the Department launched 13 Community Network Pilots to test this new unified system. In January 2015, the state expanded the number of Community Network Pilots to include an additional 33 communities in order to move towards full implementation of Act 3, scheduled for the 2015-2016 school year, which is considered to be a learning year. Pre-K teachers in public schools are required to be paid on the same salary schedules and to receive the same fringe benefits as K-3 teachers.

In 2014, Louisiana was awarded a competitive federal Preschool Development Grant for \$2.4 million. In the 2015-2016 school year, pursuant to Bulletin 140, network members statewide will participate in the early childhood care and education accountability system, which includes both classroom observations and student assessment, and in the coordinated enrollment process.

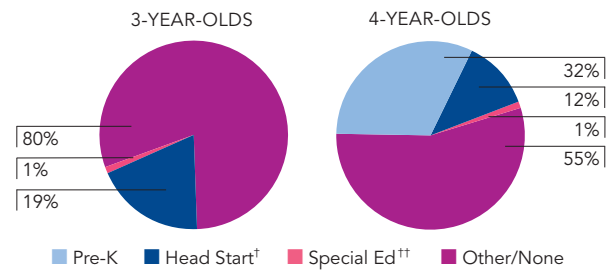
To document the contributions Louisiana makes to prekindergarten, we first present summary information reflecting the state’s overall performance through enrollment and state spending for all three programs. We then present additional details about the Cecil J. Picard LA4, 8(g), and NSECD programs.

STATE OVERVIEW

ACCESS

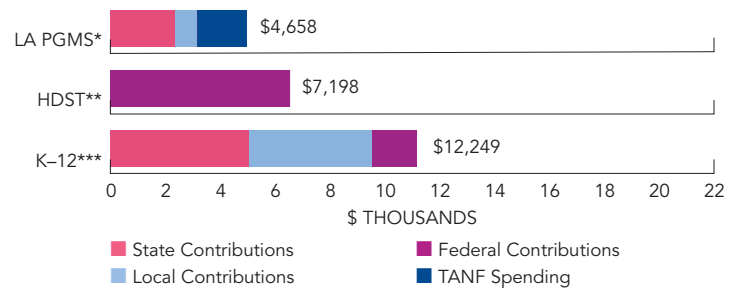
Total state program enrollment	19,732
Total state spending	\$90,184,905
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,570
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,658

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.

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 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.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
16	None Served

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
21	26

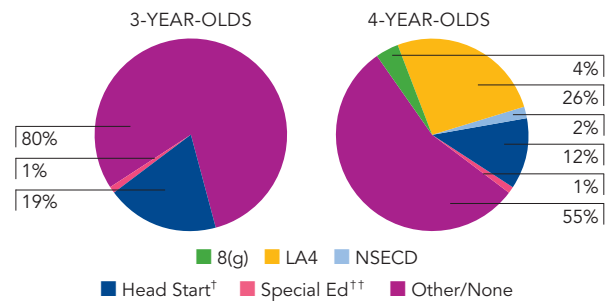
POLICIES TO SUPPORT	
DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS	WORKFORCE
—	✓ / —

LOUISIANA 8(g) STUDENT ENHANCEMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	2,261
School districts that offer state program.....	93% (school districts)
Income requirement	185% FPL
Hours of operation	6 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	4,725
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	19,051
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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.

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	Early Interventionist, Nursery School, PK-3, Noncategorical Preschool Handicapped; Kindergarten	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	18 clock hours/year	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	Vision; hearing; immunizations; and support services ¹	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch; snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

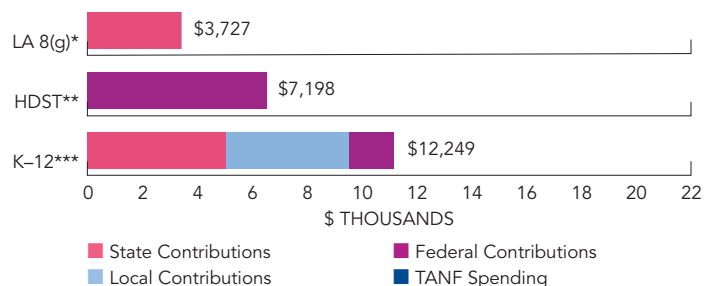
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$8,427,096
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,727
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$3,727

* 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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



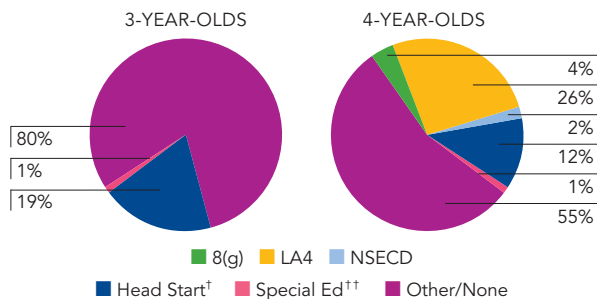
¹ This program strongly encourages vision and hearing screening.

CECIL J. PICARD LA 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	16,171 ¹
School districts that offer state program.....	90% (school districts) ²
Income requirement	185% FPL
Hours of operation.....	6 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	4,725
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	19,051
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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.

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	K; Nursery School; Early Interventionist, PK-3, Noncategorical Preschool Handicapped; ED endorsement with or without SpEd	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree.....	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	18 clock hours/year	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size.....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds.....	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	Vision; hearing; immunizations; and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Breakfast; lunch; snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

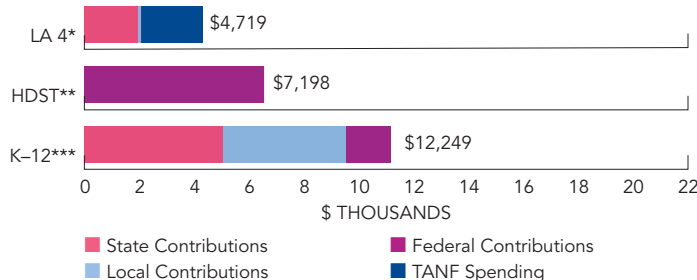
9

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$74,576,369
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,612
All reported spending per child enrolled*.....	\$4,719

* 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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



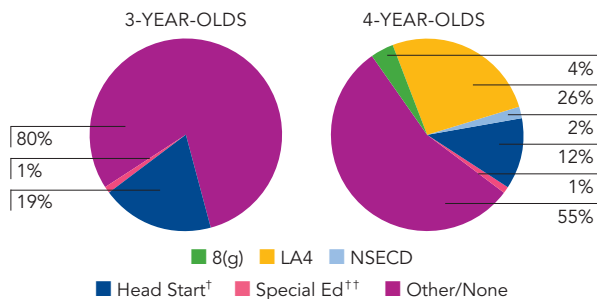
¹ The total enrollment figure does not include 377 tuition-paying students and an additional 3,249 students funded from other sources.
² In addition to program availability in 64 of 71 school districts, 26 charter schools and one tribal school participate in the LA4 program.

LOUISIANA NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (NSECD)

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	1,300
School districts that offer state program	25% (counties/parishes)
Income requirement	185% FPL
Hours of operation	6 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	4,725
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	19,051
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

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.

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	Early Interventionist; Nursery School; Kindergarten; PK-3; Noncategorical Preschool Handicapped	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	CDA	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	18 clock hours/year	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	Vision; hearing; immunizations; and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Breakfast; lunch; snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

10

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$7,181,440
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,524
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,524

* 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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

