North Dakota does not provide state-funded pre-K as defined in this report; however, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction addresses early childhood education in several initiatives. Two early childhood grant opportunities are provided for educators and school districts. Prekindergarten, child care, and Head Start teachers and assistant teachers can enhance their credentials at North Dakota state colleges and universities through Early Childhood Continuing Education Grants of up to $3,000 every two years. Up to $10,000 is available through Early Childhood Environment Grants to establish, support, or enhance new or expanded early childhood environments.

In 2013, the North Dakota Pre-Kindergarten Content Standards were published. The standards are voluntary, but 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 were aligned with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework, as well as with the state’s standards for kindergarten. Early childhood professionals can also take advantage of state-provided professional development opportunities aligned with these standards.

With support from a $6.1 million Enhanced Assessment Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, North Dakota has joined nine other states and three nationally recognized research partners in a consortium to enhance a state-of-the-art system for assessing young children’s learning. North Carolina, the lead state for the Consortium, is developing a K-3 formative assessment that includes a Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA). The K–3 assessment process will begin at kindergarten entry, generating a Child Profile of children’s learning and development, and will continue through third grade, making information available to both teachers and students that will be used to inform teaching and learning. Through this project, the Consortium will provide teachers, parents, students, policymakers, and others who care about education in the critical early years a user-friendly, effective resource for generating clear information on where children are in their learning and where they need to go next.

The North Dakota 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. It was delivered to the Legislative Management Council in June 2014, and is located on the department’s early childhood education website.

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

RESOURCES RANKINGS
STATE SPENDING
No Program
ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program

POLICIES TO SUPPORT
DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS
No Program
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 ......................................................... 1,071
Federally funded Head Start enrollment ......................................... 2,825
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 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

3-YEAR-OLDS
Pre-K 84%
Head Start† 5%
Special Ed†† 16%
Other/None 5%

4-YEAR-OLDS
Pre-K 3%
Head Start† 79%
Special Ed†† 16%
Other/None 5%

† 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

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $0
HDST** $8,090
K-12*** $10,399

State Contributions
Federal Contributions
Local Contributions
TANF Spending

$ THOUSANDS
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24