Although Alaska does not have a state-funded prekindergarten program, the state has provided a supplement to federal Head Start programs since the 1980s. State funding through this initiative is available to any federally recognized Head Start program in Alaska, and totaled more than $6 million during the 2005-2006 school year. These funds are primarily targeted toward quality improvement through professional development and school readiness activities. Wherever possible, remaining funds are used to serve additional children and families by creating new Head Start slots. In 2005-2006, an estimated 538 children were served in state-funded Head Start slots, approximately 525 of whom were ages 3 and 4.

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 ...........................................1,181
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .........................2,300
State-funded Head Start enrollment .........................525

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

3-YEAR-OLDS

86%
9%
5%

PRE-K  Head Start  Special Ed  Other/None

4-YEAR-OLDS

13%
7%
80%

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ....................................................$0
Local match required? ......................................................NA
State spending per child enrolled ...................................$0
State Head Start spending .............................................$6,080,300
State spending per 3-year-old ......................................$0
State spending per 4-year-old ......................................$0

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K*

$0

HDST

$7,211 (04-05)

K–12**

$10,945

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.
Data are for the ’05–’06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

1 Alaska did not track the number of children served through its Head Start supplement. As a result, this figure is an estimate based on the number of non-federally funded children in Alaska reported in Head Start’s 2005-2006 Program Information Report, and proportions of Alaska’s Head Start enrollees who were 3 or 4 years old.