

Florida

NO PROGRAM

Although Florida had a state prekindergarten initiative for more than 20 years, it does not currently have a state-funded program that fits the definition used in this report. In 1978, Florida launched its first state prekindergarten initiative with the creation of the State Migrant Prekindergarten Program, which supplemented federal Title I funds. The state expanded its support for prekindergarten in 1987 by establishing the Prekindergarten Early Intervention Program to serve low-income 3- and 4-year-olds. As of October 2000, these two programs were serving more than 20,000 children. In 2001, the programs were incorporated into the School Readiness Program, a broader early childhood initiative begun in 1999.

The School Readiness Program distributes federal and state resources to local councils, which are then responsible for determining how funds will be used to support and coordinate services for young children in their communities. Participating providers are no longer mandated to follow the specific quality standards that were required under the former prekindergarten programs, although they must follow applicable licensing standards.

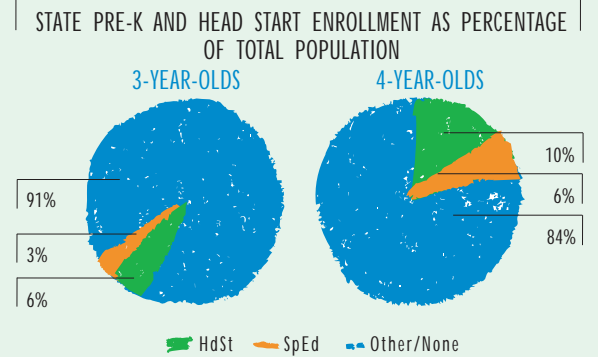
Total funding for the School Readiness Program was about \$700 million for fiscal year 2003–2004. Most of these funds were derived from federal and state TANF and CCDF contributions, although state general revenue funds accounted for \$170.9 million of the total amount. The state does not collect data on the number of children receiving each particular type of service funded by the School Readiness Program.

A voter mandate requires Florida to make prekindergarten available to all 4-year-olds by 2005. However, the legislature and the governor have not yet settled on a plan for implementing universal prekindergarten.



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	18,320
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	32,957
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

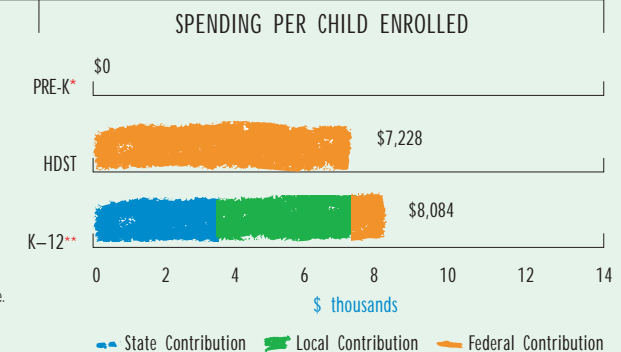


QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$0
Local match required?	NA
State spending per child enrolled	\$0
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$0



* 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 '02-'03 school year, unless otherwise noted.