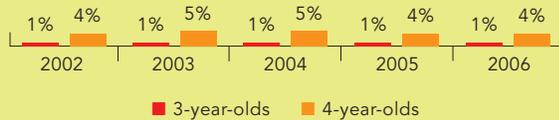


# Iowa

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2006 DOLLARS)



Iowa's *Shared Visions* program began in 1989 and provides comprehensive child development services for children between the ages of 3 and 5. Program funding is awarded through a competitive grant process to public schools, Head Start agencies, private child care centers, and nonprofit organizations. Programs individualize services to meet community needs, such as having operating hours from 3 to 10 hours per day. At least 80 percent of enrolled children must be from families with incomes below 130 percent of the federal poverty level. Over-income families are charged a sliding scale fee and are eligible according to child risk factors such as low birth weight, developmental delay, homelessness, or having a parent who has a substance abuse problem or is incarcerated.

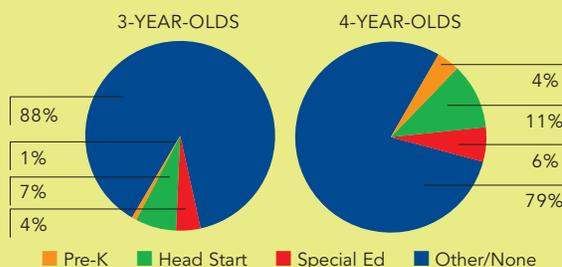
Iowa introduced new state Early Learning Standards in 2005, but they have not yet been adopted for use by *Shared Visions* programs. Funding has remained flat for *Shared Visions* since 1995, resulting in service cuts or shorter program days for some grantees. Grantees are having to rely more upon local funding sources and in-kind contributions.

ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
32	17	25

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	2,322
School districts that offer state program.....	8% (school buildings) <sup>1</sup>
Income requirement .....	80% of children must be below 130% FPL
Hours of operation.....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Special education enrollment.....	3,466
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	6,278
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	0

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



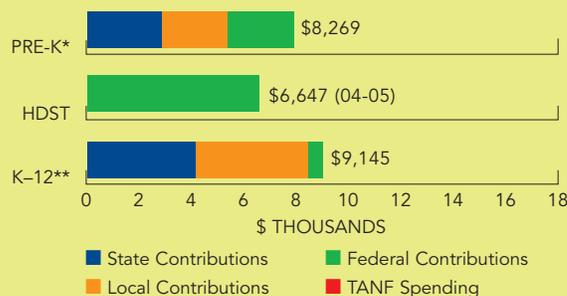
## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET <b>5</b>
Early learning standards .....	None <sup>3</sup>	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher degree.....	BA (public); AA for HdSt program, none for CC (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher .....	EC teaching endorsement (public), <sup>4</sup> None (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree.....	None (public and nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher in-service .....	6 clock hours/5 years (public); None (nonpublic) <sup>5</sup>	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Maximum class size.....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds .....	20			
4-year-olds .....	20			
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3-year-olds.....	1:8			
4-year-olds.....	1:8			
Screening/referral .....	Vision, hearing, health; and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Meals.....	Lunch and snack <sup>7</sup>	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring.....	Site visits and other monitoring <sup>8</sup>	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$6,800,000
Local match required? .....	Yes, 20% of total grant amount <sup>9</sup>
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$2,929
State spending per 3-year-old.....	\$41
State spending per 4-year-old.....	\$131

## SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



\* 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.

<sup>1</sup> In addition, programs are offered in 14 out of 1,500 licensed child care centers, and 36 out of 415 Head Start grantees.  
<sup>2</sup> Generally, programs operate 5 days per week and 9 months per year.  
<sup>3</sup> Although the Iowa Early Learning Standards were not finalized until November 2005, the state began promoting use of the standards in 2004 through professional development opportunities. Policy changes have been drafted that would require programs to use the new Iowa Early Learning Standards, but these changes have not been implemented.  
<sup>4</sup> For the early childhood endorsement, colleges must submit a program of study that is approved by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners. Exhibit sheets must demonstrate competencies achieved to assure the individual will be appropriately trained in early childhood education.  
<sup>5</sup> Teachers employed in school district programs must renew their license every 5 years, including 6 credit hours of training. There is no specific requirement for the amount of in-service training for the remaining grantees, although most do provide at least 15 clock hours per year.

<sup>6</sup> Although *Shared Visions* does not have specific requirements for screening and referral, applicants are required to address the types of screening and referral that will be provided. All *Shared Visions* programs provide screening and referral for vision, hearing, and health. Decisions about which developmental, dental and nutrition services to provide are made at the local level. The number of required parent conferences is not specified in state regulations, but programs are required to involve and work with parents by providing home visits, instruction on parenting skills, and other services. Additional support services include parenting support or training, at least two family nights, health services for children, information about nutrition, and referral to social services.  
<sup>7</sup> The specific meal depends on the time of day children are present. All applicants for *Shared Visions* funding must address meal requirements in their grant applications and meet the requirements for NAEYC accreditation.  
<sup>8</sup> NAEYC determines the percentage of programs that receive site visits and how frequently.  
<sup>9</sup> While the local match requirement is 20 percent, the state average for local match rates is 48 percent because state funding has not increased much in recent years.