Kansas established its At-Risk Four-Year-Old Children Preschool Program in 1998. The program operates in public schools, with local school districts receiving a per-child allocation based upon the September 20 state enrollment counts. School districts can subcontract with other community-based organizations. The program’s funding comes from state at-risk dollars from the state general fund. Children are eligible if they meet at least one of the following eight risk factors: free lunch eligibility, having a single parent, having a parent lacking a high school diploma or GED, having a teen parent, academic or developmental delay based upon validated assessment, English Language Learner status, migrant status, or referral from the Social and Rehabilitative Services agency.

New program requirements were implemented in the 2007-2008 program year. Class size for the At-Risk Four-Year-Old Children Preschool Program was limited to 20 children with a staff-to-child ratio of 1:10. Teachers and assistant teachers were required to have at least 15 hours of in-service training. The Kansas Early Learning Standards were provided to programs, and programs were asked to align their curricula with the standards. New program requirements also included specific staff qualifications such as a CDA for para/assistant teachers and specified licensure for lead teachers.

A second preschool program, the Kansas Pre-K Pilot Program, was launched in 2006-2007, and is funded by tobacco dollars. The program expanded in 2007-2008 to serve approximately 1,500 4-year-olds but was flat funded in 2008-2009. During the program’s third year of operation, the state transferred its administration to the Kansas State Department of Education. The program operated in 14 of 105 counties with 50 percent of the children attending classrooms in community sites and 50 percent in classrooms in public schools. Half of the children enrolled in the program do not need to meet any risk factor eligibility criteria. The other half of children must meet one of the risk factors used for the At-Risk Four-Year-Old program or have a parent on active military duty, be eligible for reduced-price lunch, or be referred by an early childhood organization or agency. This is the first year the Pre-K Pilot Program is profiled in the Yearbook.

As part of the birth to age 5 continuum, Kansas also funds a separate initiative, Parents As Teachers, for children prenatal to age 3 and their families. Children and families are served in this program through the collaboration of the Kansas State Department of Education and local school districts, including coordination with other community and district resources and organizations. The state is also working on developing the Kansas Preschool Program, which would consolidate the current preschool programs, resulting in a voluntary, high-quality preschool education program for all 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds in the state.

The first two pages of this state profile document Kansas’ overall contributions and commitment to prekindergarten, including spending and enrollment for both the At-Risk Four-Year-Old Children Preschool Program and the Pre-K Pilot Program. The third page focuses exclusively on the At-Risk program and the final page provides specific details about the Pre-K Pilot Program.
**STATE OVERVIEW**

Total state program enrollment: 8,247
Total state spending: $24,952,460
State spending per child enrolled: $3,026
All reported spending per child enrolled*: $3,026

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

3-YEAR-OLDS: 87% Pre-K, 5% Head Start, 8% Special Ed†, 8% Other/None
4-YEAR-OLDS: 21% Pre-K, 8% Head Start, 8% Special Ed†, 63% Other/None

* This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

**SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED**

- **KS PGMS***: $3,026
- **HDST**: $8,188
- **K–12****: $11,921

$ THOUSANDS

State Contributions
Local Contributions
Federal Contributions
TANF Spending

* 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 ‘08–‘09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

**ACCESS RANKINGS**

- **4-YEAR-OLDS**: 19
- **3-YEAR-OLDS**: None Served

**RESOURCES RANKINGS**

- **STATE SPENDING**: 30
- **ALL REPORTED SPENDING**: 33
## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment ........................................... 6,718
School districts that offer state program .................................. 61%
Income requirement .................................................. 130% FPL¹
Hours of operation ........................................... 3 hours/day, 4 or 5 days/week²
Operating schedule .................................................. Academic year
Special education enrollment .......................................... 5,885
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .......................... 6,282
State-funded Head Start enrollment ............................. 0

### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>BA¹</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized</td>
<td>Certification in EE, ECE, ECE SpEd,</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K training</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EC Unified (B–K, B–3rd grade), or EE with ECE endorsement³</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher in-service</td>
<td>15 clock hours</td>
<td>At least 15 hours/year</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year-olds</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year-olds</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year-olds</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year-olds</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Screening/referral</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health, dental,</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health; and support services at least 1 support service</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and support services</td>
<td>developmental; and support services⁴</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>At least 1/day</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Other monitoring</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ........................................... $19,952,460
Local match required? .................................................. No
State spending per child enrolled .................................. $2,970
All reported spending per child enrolled* ......................... $2,970

* 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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KS A-R*</td>
<td>HDST</td>
<td>K–12**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$2,970</td>
<td>$8,188</td>
<td>$11,921</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³ Teachers must have a current license. An early childhood license is recommended.

⁴ Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parent involvement activities, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

¹ Eligibility for free lunch (130% FPL) is one of eight risk factors used to determine eligibility for this program. Every child must have at least one risk factor.

² Programs must provide 465 hours per year of education, but the actual schedule is determined locally. Most programs are approximately three hours per day, five days a week.
KANSAS PRE-K PILOT PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment ..................................................... 1,529
School districts that offer state program .................. 13% (counties)
Income requirement ............................................................. 185% FPL
Hours of operation ................................................................. 3 hours/day, 4 or 5 days/week
Operating schedule ................................................................. Academic year
Special education enrollment .................................................... 5,885
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .................. 6,282
State-funded Head Start enrollment .......................... 0

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

3-YEAR-OLDS

At-Risk ........................................ 87%
KSPF ........................................ 5%
Head Start .................................. 8%
Special Ed† ................................ 8%
Other/None ................................ 17%

4-YEAR-OLDS

At-Risk ........................................ 4%
KSPF ........................................ 8%
Head Start .................................. 8%
Special Ed† ................................ 4%
Other/None ................................ 63%

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY

Early learning standards ............................................... Comprehensive
Teacher degree ......................................................... BA
Teacher specialized ...................... Certification in EE, ECE, ECE SpEd,
EC Unified (B–K, B–3rd grade),
or EE with ECE endorsement
Assistant teacher degree ....................... CDA
Teacher in-service ........................................... 15 clock hours
Maximum class size ......................................................... 20 or lower
Staff-child ratio ............................................................ 1:10 or better
Screening/referral ............................... Vision, hearing, health, dental,
and support services development;
and support services at least 1 support service
Meals .................................................... Snack
Monitoring ....................................................... Site visits

BENCHMARK

Comprehensive
BA
Specializing in pre-K
CDA or equivalent
At least 15 hours/year
20 or lower
1:10 or better
Vision, hearing, health; and
at least 1 support service
At least 1/day
Site visits

DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?

☑
☐
☑
☐
☑
☐
☐
☑
☐

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ........................................ $5,000,000
Local match required? ....................................................... No
State spending per child enrolled .................. $3,270
All reported spending per child enrolled* ......... $3,270

SUPPORT PER CHILD ENROLLED

KSFP* ........................................ $3,270
HDST ........................................ $8,188
K–12** ........................................ $11,921

* 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 '08-'09 school year, unless otherwise noted.

1 Fifty percent of children must meet one of the risk factors, which include eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch. Priority for enrollment includes low parent education, non-English speaking family, teen parent, parent on active military duty, single parent families, referrals of at-risk 4-year-olds from early childhood programs, developmentally or academically delayed based on assessments, Social and Rehabilitation Services referral, or early childhood referral. Eligibility for the other fifty percent of children is based on the local program’s discretion.

2 Programs must provide 465 hours per year of education, but the actual schedule is determined locally. Most programs are approximately three hours per day, five days a week.

3 Lead teachers in nonpublic settings must have an AA in early childhood education or closely related field and have a plan on file to get a BA within five years of becoming a state pre-K site. Lead teachers in public settings must have a BA.

4 Support services include parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities. The number of parent conferences is determined locally.