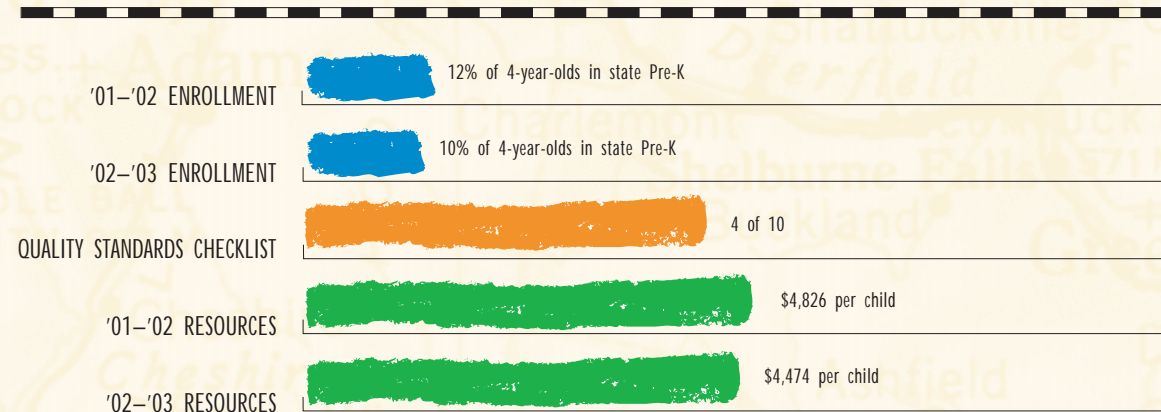


# Massachusetts



The Community Partnerships for Children (CPC) initiative has its origins in the Massachusetts School Improvement Acts of 1985, which established a state-funded early childhood program for young children at risk in the public schools. The CPC preschool program was expanded in 1993 to include all early care and education programs in a community in the planning and delivery of services to young children. Further expansion in 1996 added a focus on services for 3- and 4-year-olds from working families. Scholarships are available to families who earn up to 100 percent of the state median income (SMI), with parent fees determined by a state sliding fee scale. If a community serves all the children from families earning up to 100 percent of SMI it can then serve children from families earning up to 125 percent of SMI. Currently, 65 percent of the families served are below 85 percent of SMI. Programs are required to be inclusive and to serve children with and without disabilities.

Collaboration at the community level is a key requirement of the CPC program. The state distributes funds (through a competitive process) to local CPC councils; these councils plan the expansion and coordination of preschool services based on community resources and needs. Councils include parents; representatives of child care, public school, Head Start and family child care programs; and other community representatives. Councils must address specific funding priorities in their annual proposals, such as increasing the affordability of early childhood programs and improving the quality of programs through accreditation support and training. Programs funded under CPC are required to comply with and use the Early Childhood Program Standards and Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences adopted by the Board of Education in April 2003.

In recent years, state budget cuts have had adverse effects on the CPC program, with approximately one-third of the funding eliminated since fiscal year 2001. Cuts in services are determined locally by the CPC councils and have included a broad range of reductions in direct services, quality initiatives, and comprehensive services. With funding of \$78,300,000, the CPC program served 17,500 children in 2002-2003.

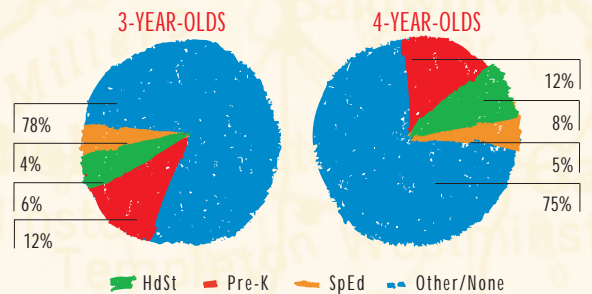
A separate early childhood initiative provided \$6,400,000 in state funds to supplement federal funding for Head Start in 2001-2002. These funds were used for quality enhancement and to provide 440 additional Head Start slots in Massachusetts.



## ACCESS

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment            | 19,974 <sup>1</sup>             |
| School districts that offer state program | 95% (towns) <sup>2</sup>        |
| Income requirement                        | 125% SMI                        |
| Hours of operation                        | Determined locally <sup>3</sup> |
| Operating schedule                        | Determined locally <sup>4</sup> |
| Special education enrollment              | 7,995                           |
| Federally-funded Head Start enrollment    | 10,910                          |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment        | 440                             |

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



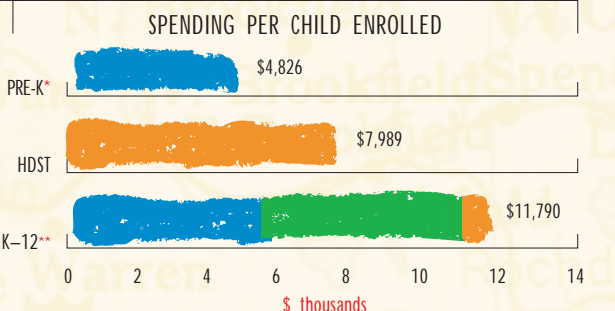
## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY                                   | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT  | BENCHMARK                   | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?    |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Curriculum standards                     | Comprehensive  | Comprehensive               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree requirement               | BA (public), None (nonpublic) <sup>5</sup>                               | BA                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher specialized training requirement | EC cert. (public), 3 ECE classes + 36 mos. exp. (nonpublic) <sup>5</sup> | Specializing in EC          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Assistant teacher degree requirement     | HSD (public), 16 yrs. old + constant supervision (nonpublic)             | CDA or equivalent           | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Teacher in-service requirement           | None <sup>6</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 requirements          | Determined locally   | Vision, hearing, and health | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Family support service requirements      | Family support services <sup>7</sup>                                     | At least 1 service          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Meal requirements                        | None   | At least 1/day              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |



## RESOURCES

|                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Total state Pre-K spending        | \$96,400,000 <sup>8</sup> |
| Local match required?             | No                        |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$4,826                   |
| State Head Start spending         | \$6,400,000               |
| State spending per 3-year-old     | \$571                     |
| State spending per 4-year-old     | \$558                     |



<sup>1</sup> Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.  
<sup>2</sup> K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>3</sup> Additional children are served in a public school preschool program that is supported with special education funding, federal Title I dollars, local fees and other resources and that overlaps with the CPC initiative. The public school preschool program serves approximately 20,000 children, including about 8,000 children who are served with CPC funding. Classroom composition is highly inclusive—in classes of 20, no more than the 30% of the children have special needs and in classes of 15 or smaller no more than 50% of the children have special needs.  
<sup>4</sup> This figure represents the percentage of towns in which the program is offered, as funding is distributed at the community level rather than at the district level. There were 168 CPC grants given to 335 out of a total of 351 towns.  
<sup>5</sup> An estimated 75% of programs offer full-day service.  
<sup>6</sup> An estimated 60% of programs operate for the calendar year.  
<sup>7</sup> Teachers must be at least 21 years old. In 2003, standards were passed that require all teachers to have a minimum of an AA in 7 years, and a BA in 14 years.  
<sup>8</sup> CPC has no specific requirement, but spends \$7,700,000 annually for professional development activities. The Office of Child Care Services has an in-service requirement of 15 hours per year, and public school requirements are decided locally.  
<sup>9</sup> Support services for families are one of five goals that grantees must specify in applications for funding.  
<sup>10</sup> About \$24,100,000 (25%) of total funding came from TANF and CCDF money.