### ACCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth date</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Factor</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K–12</td>
<td>$7,743</td>
<td>$7,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-K</td>
<td>$4,819</td>
<td>$4,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>$7,389</td>
<td>$7,389</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

- Curriculum standards: None
- Teachers' degree requirement: Bachelor's degree or more
- Teachers' specialized training: Birth–K license
- Assistant teachers' degree requirement: CDA or meets licensing system—or if they currently have three stars and are working toward four
- Vision, hearing, and health
- Staff-child ratio, 3-year-olds: NA
- Staff-child ratio, 4-year-olds: 18
- Maximum class size: 20 or lower
- Meal requirement: Lunch and either breakfast or snack
- At least 1 service
- Support services: Vision, hearing, and health
- At least 1 service
- Support services: At least 1 service and other services

### STATE CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ thousands</td>
<td>$30,217,723</td>
<td>$30,217,723</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTAL STATE PRE-K SPENDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ thousands</td>
<td>$30,217,723</td>
<td>$30,217,723</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DATA SOURCES

- Head Start
- Pre-K
- Special Education
- Other/None

### SCREENING/REFERRAL REQUIREMENTS

- Vision, hearing, health, and dental

- At least 1 service

- Support services: Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: At least 1 service and other services

### Staff-child ratio

- 3-year-olds: NA
- 4-year-olds: 18

### Maximum class size

- 20 or lower

### Meal requirement

- Lunch and either breakfast or snack

### Support services

- Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: At least 1 service and other services

### Data notes

1. In 2002–2003, head start included one of the risk factors that could be considered for enrollment priority.
2. Programs are open to children in the degree requirement, after being accepted as a child. The number of open slots varies by site.
3. North Carolina funds Smart Start, a separate initiative begun in 1993, which supports local planning and collaboration to provide comprehensive early childhood services. Based on the needs of each county, Smart Start serves children from birth to age 5 and provides funds that may be used to increase child care quality, improve child health outcomes, provide family support services, or support preschool programs. Funding for Smart Start in 2002–2003 was $198.6 million. After several budget cuts in preceding years, funding further decreased to $190.7 million in 2003–2004, and will remain level in 2004–2005.
4. The program has grown rapidly over the past three years, offering an estimated 10,000 available slots in 2003–2004. Individual programs determine eligibility for services, but are required to consider family income and risk factors related to child health status, disability, parent education, family composition, parent employment, housing stability, and English proficiency. Programs may also offer enrollment to children based on minority status. First priority for enrollment is given to children who present risk factors but have not previously participated in an early childhood program. By the year 2004–2005, at least 80 percent of participants will be required to come from families at or below 75 percent of the state median income. The remainder of the 10 percent of enrollees may come from families with incomes up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level. To be eligible, children from these families must have at least one of the following risk factors: an identified disability, a chronic health condition, limited English proficiency, or an educational or developmental need.
5. School districts, child care centers, and Head Start agencies may receive funding to operate More at Four programs if they have a four- or five-star license—the top quality ratings under North Carolina's child care licensing system—or if they currently have three stars and are working toward four. All teachers must have a bachelor's degree with a Birth–K license, and programs are evaluated annually using assessments of both program quality and child developmental outcomes.
6. Funding for More at Four has increased to $43.1 million in 2003–2004, and will increase to approximately $50 million in 2004–2005, at which time the program is expected to serve 12,000 children.
7. Although More at Four is the focus of data in this report, North Carolina also funds Smart Start, a separate initiative begun in 1993, which supports local planning and collaboration to provide comprehensive early childhood services. Based on the needs of each county, Smart Start serves children from birth to age 5 and provides funds that may be used to increase child care quality, improve child health outcomes, provide family support services, or support preschool programs. Funding for Smart Start in 2002–2003 was $198.6 million. After several budget cuts in preceding years, funding further decreased to $190.7 million in 2003–2004, and will remain level in 2004–2005.

### SCREENING/REFERRAL REQUIREMENTS

- Vision, hearing, health, and dental

- At least 1 service

- Support services: Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: At least 1 service and other services

### Staff-child ratio

- 3-year-olds: NA
- 4-year-olds: 18

### Maximum class size

- 20 or lower

### Meal requirement

- Lunch and either breakfast or snack

### Support services

- Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: Vision, hearing, and health

- At least 1 service

- Support services: At least 1 service and other services

### Data notes

1. In 2002–2003, head start included one of the risk factors that could be considered for enrollment priority.
2. Programs are open to children in the degree requirement, after being accepted as a child. The number of open slots varies by site.
3. North Carolina funds Smart Start, a separate initiative begun in 1993, which supports local planning and collaboration to provide comprehensive early childhood services. Based on the needs of each county, Smart Start serves children from birth to age 5 and provides funds that may be used to increase child care quality, improve child health outcomes, provide family support services, or support preschool programs. Funding for Smart Start in 2002–2003 was $198.6 million. After several budget cuts in preceding years, funding further decreased to $190.7 million in 2003–2004, and will remain level in 2004–2005.
4. The program has grown rapidly over the past three years, offering an estimated 10,000 available slots in 2003–2004. Individual programs determine eligibility for services, but are required to consider family income and risk factors related to child health status, disability, parent education, family composition, parent employment, housing stability, and English proficiency. Programs may also offer enrollment to children based on minority status. First priority for enrollment is given to children who present risk factors but have not previously participated in an early childhood program. By the year 2004–2005, at least 80 percent of participants will be required to come from families at or below 75 percent of the state median income. The remainder of the 10 percent of enrollees may come from families with incomes up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level. To be eligible, children from these families must have at least one of the following risk factors: an identified disability, a chronic health condition, limited English proficiency, or an educational or developmental need.
5. School districts, child care centers, and Head Start agencies may receive funding to operate More at Four programs if they have a four- or five-star license—the top quality ratings under North Carolina's child care licensing system—or if they currently have three stars and are working toward four. All teachers must have a bachelor's degree with a Birth–K license, and programs are evaluated annually using assessments of both program quality and child developmental outcomes.
6. Funding for More at Four has increased to $43.1 million in 2003–2004, and will increase to approximately $50 million in 2004–2005, at which time the program is expected to serve 12,000 children.
7. Although More at Four is the focus of data in this report, North Carolina also funds Smart Start, a separate initiative begun in 1993, which supports local planning and collaboration to provide comprehensive early childhood services. Based on the needs of each county, Smart Start serves children from birth to age 5 and provides funds that may be used to increase child care quality, improve child health outcomes, provide family support services, or support preschool programs. Funding for Smart Start in 2002–2003 was $198.6 million. After several budget cuts in preceding years, funding further decreased to $190.7 million in 2003–2004, and will remain level in 2004–2005.