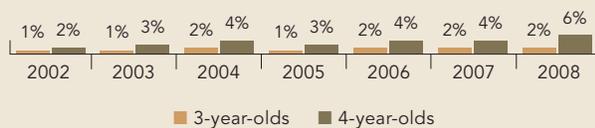


Nebraska

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2008 DOLLARS)



In 1992, the Nebraska Early Childhood Education Grant Program began as a pilot program and was expanded in 2001. Although children may be enrolled as early as 6 weeks of age, the program's focus is on serving 3- and 4-year-old children at risk. State funds are distributed to public schools and educational service units, but services are also offered through partnerships with private child care centers, family resource centers, and Head Start agencies. As collaborative funding efforts are required by the state, all grantees must cover at least half of their program costs using other federal, state or local sources.

At least 70 percent of each program's funding must be used to serve children having at least one of four risk factors set by the state. These priority areas are: children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, English Language Learners, children born prematurely or with low birth weight, and children of teen parents who have not completed high school. Children who do not meet the eligibility requirement are permitted to enroll, with a sliding payment scale used for tuition.

Nebraska passed legislation in 2005 allowing 4-year-olds in approved school-based prekindergarten programs to be included in the K-12 state aid formula. Additional school districts became eligible for state aid for the 4-year-olds they served. As a result, the total number of young children served by state funding grew by approximately 600 children in the 2007-2008 program year.

| ACCESS RANKINGS | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 33 | 16 |

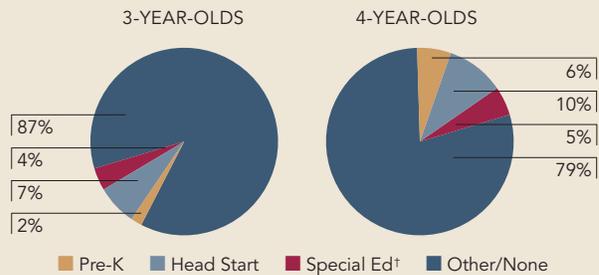
| RESOURCES RANKINGS | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 32 | 13 |

NEBRASKA EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

ACCESS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment | 2,221 ¹ |
| School districts that offer state program | 23% |
| Income requirement | 185% FPL ² |
| Hours of operation | Determined locally ³ |
| Operating schedule | Academic year |
| Special education enrollment | 3,076 |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment | 4,326 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment | 0 |

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



[†] This number represents children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start but may be enrolled in state-funded pre-K.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET </div> |
|------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Early learning standards | Comprehensive | Comprehensive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Teacher specialized training | Certification and EC endorsement | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Assistant teacher degree | 12 cr. hours in CD or ECE or equivalent | CDA or equivalent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Teacher in-service | 12 clock hours | At least 15 hours/year | <input checked="" 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 | 1:10 | | | |
| 4-year-olds | 1:10 | | | |
| Screening/referral | Support services only ⁴ | Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Meals | Snack | At least 1/day | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Monitoring | Site visits and other monitoring | Site visits | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

RESOURCES

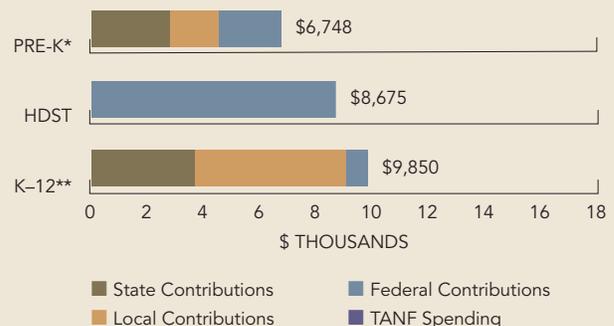
| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$6,200,647 |
| Local match required? | Yes, 100% of state funding |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$2,792 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$6,748 |

* 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 '07-'08 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ This total includes 111 children younger than age 3.

² Seventy percent of each program's funding must be used to serve children having at least one of four risk factors, one of which is family income. The other risk factors are non-English speaking family members, teen parent, low birth weight or other child health risk.

³ Most programs operate part day, 3.5 to 4 hours per day, 4 days per week.

⁴ Screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include two parent conferences and two home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, transition to kindergarten activities, family development and support based on the family's needs and interest, and other locally determined services.