

# Rhode Island

## NO PROGRAM

**A**lthough it has a few state initiatives with the goal of expanding access to early childhood education, Rhode Island does not have a distinct state-funded preschool program meeting the criteria used in this report.

Since 2001, Rhode Island's Comprehensive Child Care Services Program (CCCSP) has provided funds for comprehensive services in child care settings for children from low-income families. Three- and 4-year-olds with family incomes below 108 percent of poverty are eligible for CCCSP, which operates in state-approved child care centers or state-certified family child care homes. Regulations include maximum class sizes of 18 for 3-year-olds and 20 for 4-year-olds, with staff-child ratios of 1:9 and 1:10, respectively. Teachers must have a Child Development Associate credential, with 15 credits in early childhood education. Comprehensive services through CCCSP are the same as those required by Head Start, including health screenings and referrals, services for parents, and meals. Programs use the comprehensive Rhode Island Early Learning Standards as guidance, but are not required to follow them. Program staff receive training in using the standards, which are specific to prekindergarten children.

The CCCSP is closely coordinated with Rhode Island's Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). CCAP is funded using federal and state CCDF dollars, and provides additional subsidies for full-day services for most children served through CCCSP. CCAP also provides child care subsidies for children from low-income families who do not qualify for CCCSP or child care subsidies, specifically those with family incomes between 108 and 180 percent of poverty. The children in this slightly higher income group are served in the same classrooms as children who qualify for CCCSP, and thereby benefit from the CCCSP-funded quality enhancements. Most CCCSP classrooms also serve children who do not qualify for either program and pay tuition.

Rhode Island dedicates supplemental funding to the federal Head Start program. In 2006-2007, the state provided \$3.3 million to fund 400 additional Head Start slots. The state also offers the Early Childhood Investment Fund, a flexible financing stream that school districts can use for a variety of services, including prekindergarten. Finally, Rhode Island offers an entitlement to child care assistance for low-income families, primarily using state funds.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

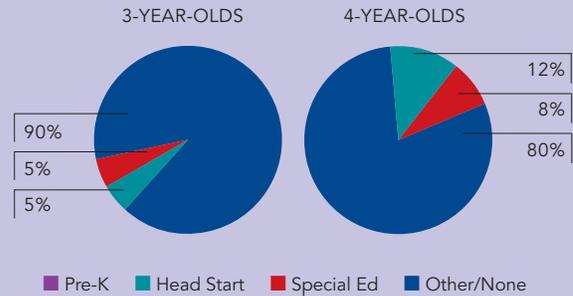
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program*	

\* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	0
School districts that offer state program .....	NA
Income requirement .....	NA
Hours of operation .....	NA
Operating schedule .....	NA
Special education enrollment .....	1,701
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	1,970
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	400 <sup>1</sup>

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



## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

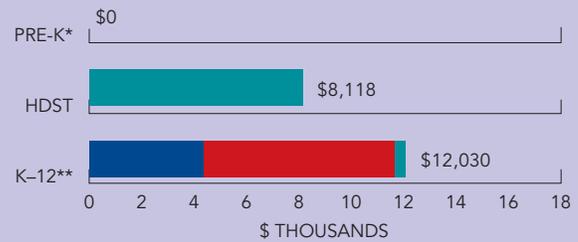
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$0
Local match required? .....	NA
State Head Start spending .....	\$3,300,000
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$0
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$0

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



State Contributions      Federal Contributions  
Local 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> Rhode Island was not able to break its state-funded Head Start enrollment down by single year of age. As a result, this figure is an estimate based on the percentage of federal Head Start enrollees in Rhode Island who were 3 or 4 years old.