In 1984, the South Carolina Education Improvement Act established the Half-Day Child Development Program, known as 4K, with the primary purpose of improving school readiness. Each district in the state is required to have at least one 4K class, which provides half-day preschool education to at-risk 4-year-olds. Child eligibility requirements are selected according to local need, based on a list of state-specified risk factors. Examples of risk factors include having single parents or parents with low educational attainment, being homeless, or having a low family income.

State funds are distributed to 4K programs based on the number of kindergartners per district eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Additional funding sources are used in about 15 percent of programs to provide full-day services to preschool children. Although some districts partner with Head Start or private child care centers to provide services, the majority of children are served in public school settings.

In 2006, another state initiative, the Child Development Education Pilot Program (CDEPP), was created as a result of the lawsuit Abbeville County School District v. South Carolina. The court decision mandated that full-day preschool be provided in certain circumstances. Only counties named in the lawsuit that choose to offer 4K services are required to provide full-day preschool for children residing in the county who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or Medicaid. Public school programs must be approved by the state Department of Education while private child centers must obtain approval from the Office of First Steps.

The First Steps to School Readiness program is an additional state initiative, although it is not the focus of this report. Funds are distributed through First Steps County Partnerships for use at the local level for a variety of services for children and their families. Although First Steps is separate from 4K and CDEPP, some communities use funds from this initiative in collaboration with 4K and CDEPP for such purposes as extending services to a full day or providing additional slots in existing programs.

The first two pages of this state profile document South Carolina’s overall contributions and commitment to state prekindergarten, including state spending and enrollment for both the Half-Day Child Development Program and the Child Development Education Pilot Program initiatives. The third page focuses exclusively on the Half-Day Child Development Program initiative and the final page presents specific details about the CDEPP initiative.
Total state program enrollment ...................................... 22,590
Total state spending .............................................. $38,821,515
State spending per child enrolled ............................... $1,719
All reported spending per child enrolled* .................. $2,134

STATE OVERVIEW

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

- 3-YEAR-OLDS
  - Pre-K: 84%
  - Head Start: 2%
  - Special Ed†: 10%
  - Other/None: 4%

- 4-YEAR-OLDS
  - Pre-K: 35%
  - Head Start: 10%
  - Special Ed†: 5%
  - Other/None: 50%

† This number represents children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start, but includes children who are enrolled in state-funded pre-K.

All reported spending per child enrolled* .................. $2,134

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT

SC PGMS*

HDST

K–12**

$ THOUSANDS

$2,134

$7,132

$11,243

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

- 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.

ACCESS RANKINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-YEAR-OLDS</th>
<th>3-YEAR-OLDS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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RESOURCES RANKINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE SPENDING</th>
<th>ALL REPORTED SPENDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOUTH CAROLINA HALF-DAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ACCESS
Total state program enrollment ........................................... 18,398
School districts that offer state program ............................. 59%
Income requirement ......................................................... 185% FPL
Hours of operation ......................................................... 2.5 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule ........................................................... Academic year
Special education enrollment ............................................ 5,285
Federally funded Head Start enrollment ......................... 11,681
State-funded Head Start enrollment ............................... 0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION
3-YEAR-OLDS
4-YEAR-OLDS

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY
Early learning standards .............................................. Comprehensive
Teacher degree ................................................................. BA
Teacher specialized training ...................................... EC certification for pre-K–3
Assistant teacher degree ................................................. HSD
Teacher in-service .......................................................... 15 clock hours/year
Maximum class size .............................................................. 20 or lower
Staff-child ratio ................................................................. 1:10 or better
Screening/referral ......................................................... Vision, hearing, health; and support services
Meals ................................................................................. Snack
Monitoring ................................................................. Site visits and other monitoring

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT
Total state pre-K spending ................................... $21,832,678
Local match required? ..................................................... No
State spending per child enrolled ................................ $1,187
All reported spending per child enrolled* ..................... $1,697

SOUTH CAROLINA HALF-DAY CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

RESOURCES

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

4K* $1,697
HDST $7,132
K–12** $11,243

* 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.

1 Children are eligible for the program if they are determined to be educationally at-risk.
2 Support services include four annual parent conferences or home visits, education services or job training for parents, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, referral to social services, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.
SOUTH CAROLINA CHILD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment ............................................4,192
School districts that offer state program .................................41%
Income requirement ..........................................................185% FPL
Hours of operation .........................................................6.5 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule .........................................................Academic year
Special education enrollment ..............................................5,285
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .................................11,681
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....................................0

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

3-YEAR-OLDS

4-YEAR-OLDS

84%
2%
10%
14%
7%

28%
10%
4%
50%

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>BA (public), AA in ECE (nonpublic)&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>EC certification for pre-K–3</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K (public); AA in ECE (nonpublic)&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>HSD&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher in-service</td>
<td>15 clock hours/year</td>
<td>At least 15 hours/year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>20 or lower</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>
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<tr>
<td>Screening/referral</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health; and support services</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health; and support services&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt; at least 1 support service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>Breakfast and lunch</td>
<td>At least 1/day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Site visits and other monitoring</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESEARCH

TOTAL state pre-K spending ..............................................$16,988,837
Local match required? ..................................................No
State spending per child enrolled ....................................$4,053
All reported spending per child enrolled* .........................$4,053

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDEPP*</td>
<td>$4,053</td>
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<tr>
<td>HDST</td>
<td>$7,132</td>
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<tr>
<td>K–12**</td>
<td>$11,243</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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.

1 Children are also eligible if they receive Medicaid services.
2 In the First Steps program, the requirement for the AA degree may be waived. In public school settings, all teachers must have a BA degree or higher and be certified in early childhood.
3 The teaching assistant must complete one course of ECD 101 within the calendar year if they do not have an AA degree.
4 Dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, and parent involvement activities, health services for children and transition to kindergarten activities.