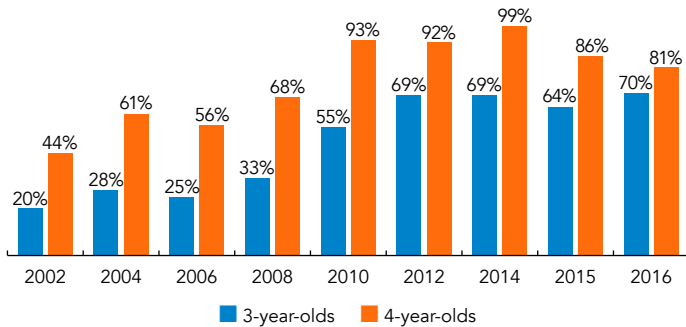


# District of Columbia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2016 DOLLARS)



Among the first in the nation to invest in early education, the District of Columbia has offered prekindergarten (pre-K) since the 1960s. DC began to bolster its investment in pre-K significantly in 2008 through the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Amendment Act of 2008 (Pre-K Act). The Pre-K Act expanded the DC public pre-K program to provide quality, universally accessible pre-K education. Following the passage of this legislation, the percent of children enrolling in the DC Public Pre-K program increased significantly. During the 2007-2008 school year, 68% of the 4-year-old population and 33% of the 3-year-old population were enrolled in a pre-K program. In 2015-2016, 81% of all 4-year-olds and 70% of all 3-year-olds residing in the District were enrolled in the DC public pre-K program. Given such high availability and participation, the provision of prekindergarten services to 4-year-olds in the District can be considered universal. Moreover, the District of Columbia has a higher percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled than any other U.S. state or territory.

The Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE), the agency with authority over the majority of programs and services for young children and their families in the District, also administers the DC Public Pre-K program. Additionally, both the DC Public Schools and the DC Public Charter School Board have authority to oversee implementation of programs offered within these school-based settings. In an effort to provide high-quality pre-K services across multiple programs, pre-K services also are offered within high-quality community-based organizations.

Children attend DC's pre-K program five days per week during the school year, and services are provided for a minimum of 6.5 hours per day for at least 180 instructional days. Extended-day services are common in community-based organizations and many public and public charter schools.

Reflecting its commitment to quality, the DC Public Charter School Board uses its Performance Management Framework (PMF) to hold schools accountable to high standards. The PMF requires all public charter local education agencies (LEAs) to receive a score annually based on student outcomes, the results of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), which measures the quality of teacher-child interactions, and student attendance. Information collected is shared with families and other stakeholders. DCPS' Head Start School Wide Model holds its classrooms to the rigorous expectations reflected in the Head Start Performance Standards, as well as IMPACT, the teacher evaluation system. Community-based organizations also collect CLASS data to inform program and classroom quality.

Funding for pre-K programs is calculated based on the school funding formula used for K through 12. The formula, called the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula (UPSFF), is based on the DC General Education Fund. The spending per pupil adjusts through a series of weights accounting for the costs of different grade levels and addresses the different needs of students.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
1	1

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
1	1

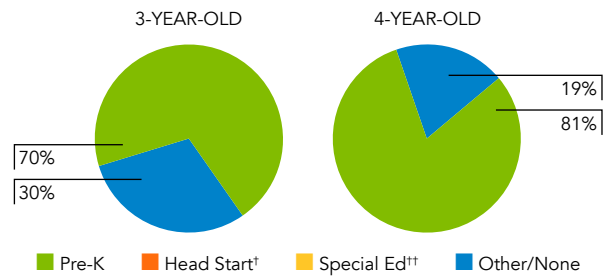
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET	
CURRENT STANDARDS	NEW STANDARDS
4	3

## D.C. PUBLIC PRE-K

### ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.....	12,902
School districts that offer state program .....	55% (LEAs)
Income requirement .....	No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation.....	6.5 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule.....	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	785
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	2,309
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

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



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.

†† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

### QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	DC PRE-K REQUIREMENT	CURRENT BENCHMARK	MEETS CURRENT BENCHMARK?	NEW BENCHMARK	MEETS NEW BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	New in 2015-2016	—	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (DCPS & CBO); Determined locally (PCS) <sup>15</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE (DCPS); Determined locally (PCS); ECE, CD, other (CBO) <sup>15</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	AA (DCPS & CBO); None (PCS) <sup>16</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	30 hours/year (DCPS & CBO only); PD plans (DCPS & CBO only); coaching (DCPS & CBO only)	For teachers: At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	16 (3-year-olds); 20 (4-year-olds) (DCPS & CBO only) <sup>7</sup>	20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>	20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:8 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (4-year-olds) (DCPS & CBO only) <sup>7</sup>	1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>	1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more; Support services <sup>9</sup>	Vision, hearing, health & at least one support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Breakfast, lunch, snack	At least one meal/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discontinued	—
Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system	Annual structured classroom observations	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<b>4</b>		
					<b>3</b>

### RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$216,902,863
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$0
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$16,812
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$17,875

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

\*\* Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

