The Guam Department of Education launched its first publicly funded Pilot Prekindergarten Program in October 2015, with an initial $877,330 investment including $513,157 in classroom start-up costs. The Guam Department of Education oversees one school district, comprised of four regions. Each of the four regions has one Prekindergarten Program classroom. Currently, all four pre-K classrooms are located within public schools.

In the 2015-2016 school year, the four Prekindergarten Program classrooms served 72 four-year-old children, approximately 2.6% of the territory’s four-year-old children. All age-eligible children may enroll in the program—there is no specified income requirement. The Prekindergarten Program operates six hours a day, five days a week, following the school year or academic calendar, providing 820 hours of services per year. During this school-day program, both lunch and breakfast are served.

The maximum class size for the program is 18, with a teacher to student ratio of 1 to 9. Lead teachers are required to have an Associate’s degree with early childhood education specialization and either pre-K or pre-K to 2nd grade certification. The Pilot Prekindergarten Program is in its initial stages and polices regarding classroom-embedded coaching support will be reviewed in the future to include Prekindergarten teachers. Lead teachers are required to participate in 30 clock hours of in-service professional development annually. Assistant teachers are not required to participate in professional development and need only a high school diploma.

A formal evaluation of the program is still in the planning stages and will be conducted by the Guam Department of Education’s Administrator for Research, Planning & Evaluation.
GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PILOT PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment ................................................. 72
School districts that offer state program ................................ 100%
Income requirement ........................................... No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation ......................... 6 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule ......................... School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .................. 105
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ....... 534
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .......... 0

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

3-YEAR-OLD
94%
1%
5%
Pre-K
Head Start
Other/None

4-YEAR-OLD
9%
1%
81%
Pre-K
Head Start
Special Ed††
Other/None
†† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUAM PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>CURRENT BENCHMARK</th>
<th>MEETS CURRENT BENCHMARK?</th>
<th>NEW BENCHMARK</th>
<th>MEETS NEW BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning &amp; development standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned with other state standards, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum supports</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>New in 2015-2016</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>ECE</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Specializing in pre-K</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>HSD</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff professional development</td>
<td>30 hours/year (teachers only)</td>
<td>For teachers: At least 15 hours/year</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>For teachers &amp; assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>18 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:9 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening &amp; referral</td>
<td>Immunizations, full physical exam, no vision or hearing; Support services</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health &amp; at least one support service</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</td>
<td>❌</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>Breakfast, lunch</td>
<td>At least one meal/day</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Discontinued</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system</td>
<td>Annual structured classroom observations; Improvement plan</td>
<td>Site visits</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ................................................. $877,330
Local match required? ............................................................ No
State Head Start spending ................................................. $0
State spending per child enrolled ........................................... $12,185
All reported spending per child enrolled* ................................ $12,185

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRE-K $12,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDST** $4,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12*** Data not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data are for the 2015-2016 school year, unless otherwise noted.

* 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.