Iowa has two state-funded pre-K programs: Shared Visions and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP). The Shared Visions program has provided services to 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds since 1989 through competitive grants to public schools, licensed non-profit child care centers, other public non-profit agencies, and Head Start. Shared Visions serves children in part-, school-, or extended-day programs, and all programs are required to meet NAEYC standards. The 2016-2017 school year was the second year of a five-year competitive grant cycle and budget constraints in the fourth quarter resulted in reductions in services.

In 2007, Iowa began the SWVPP to increase 4-year-olds’ access to pre-K. All 4-year-olds in the state are eligible to attend SWVPP. Funding for SWVPP is based on a school funding formula in which 4-year-olds are funded at 50% of the K–12 student aid amount. SWVPP operates at least 10 hours per week and programs may collaborate with Head Start, other preschool programs, or child care programs to provide the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program and/or offer full-day services.

Both SWVPP and Shared Visions have undergone formal evaluations, and additional evaluations are currently underway. Internal evaluations are completed annually for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program. Additionally, as part of the state longitudinal data system, all children enrolled in both programs receive a unique state identification number. Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the Differentiated Accountability Model was scaled statewide to offer universal, supplemental, or intensive supports as needed.

An important difference between the two state-funded pre-K programs concerns child eligibility. Shared Visions is a targeted program where at least 80% of children are required to meet income eligibility guidelines (family income at or below 130% FPL). Children can also qualify for the program based on other risk factors but may be required to pay a fee based on a sliding scale. Services within this program are provided in 31 locations (through 32 grants), less than seven percent of school districts. In addition, services are provided in 34 other community-based locations, representing 16 organizations (through 35 grants). In contrast, SWVPP is available in 97% of school districts and all children in the state who turn four by September 15 are eligible to attend.

Shared Visions lead teachers are required to have at least a BA degree if they are employed by public schools. Lead teachers employed by nonpublic settings follow NAEYC standards which require at least 75% to have a BA in ECE or a related field. The other teachers are required to have at least an AA degree in ECE or CD. All SWVPP lead teachers must have at least a BA and an Iowa teaching license with an early childhood endorsement.

Iowa’s overall support for state prekindergarten, including enrollment and funding for both Shared Visions and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, is shown in the first two pages of this state profile. The third page focuses on Shared Visions and the fourth page provides information about SWVPP.
IOWA STATE OVERVIEW

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment.......................... 26,310
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .......... 3,504
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ...... 5,850
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ............... 0

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending.......................... $83,791,732
State Head Start spending........................................ $0
State spending per child enrolled.......................... $3,335
All reported spending per child enrolled* .................. $3,437

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

3-YEAR-OLD
69%
2%
6%
3%
4%
63%

4-YEAR-OLD

2%
31%

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $3,437
HDST** $8,291
K-12*** $13,080

ACCESS RANKINGS
4-YEAR-OLDS 3-YEAR-OLDS
7 20

RESOURCE RANKINGS
STATE SPENDING ALL REPORTED SPENDING
36 41

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
CURRENT STANDARDS NEW STANDARDS
7 7.9

* 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.

† 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.

Data are for the 2016-2017 school year, unless otherwise noted.
IOWA SHARED VISIONS

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.................................................. 1,349
School districts that offer state program ........................................ 7%
Income requirement........................................................... 130% FPL
Minimum hours of operation............................................. Determined locally
Operating schedule...................................................... Determined locally

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>IA SHARED VISIONS 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, 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>BA (public); AA (nonpublic)</td>
<td>BA</td>
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<td>BA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher specialized training</td>
<td>ECE, CD, ECE SpEd</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>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff professional development</td>
<td>6 credit hours/5 year (public teachers); 6 hours/year (non-public teachers &amp; assistants); PD plans; Coaching (public 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 (3-year-olds); 20 (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>1.8 (3- &amp; 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>Vision, hearing, health &amp; more; 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>At least one meal/day</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>Site visits; Monitoring data used for program improvement</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 ............................................. $7,411,239
Local match required? .................................................. Yes
State spending per child enrolled ..................................... $5,494
All reported spending per child enrolled* ................................ $7,404

* 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.

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

Data are for the 2016-2017 school year, unless otherwise noted.
ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment ............................................. 24,961
School districts that offer state program ................................. 97%
Income requirement......................................................... No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation .............................................. 10 hours/week
Operating schedule ....................................................... School or academic year

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>IA SWVPP 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, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<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>BA with Iowa Teaching License</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>Depends on overseeing agency</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff professional development</td>
<td>15 hours/year recommended (teachers only); PD plans; Coaching (public 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 (3-year-olds); 20 (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 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (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>Vision, hearing, health &amp; more; 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>Snack</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>Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement</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 ............................................. $76,380,493
Local match required? .................................................. No
State spending per child enrolled .................................... $3,212
All reported spending per child enrolled* ............................ $3,212

* 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.

Data are for the 2016-2017 school year, unless otherwise noted.