Although the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) does not provide state-funded preschool as defined in this report, the territory does support early education in other ways. Since 1984, the CNMI Public School System has operated the Head Start program in 10 centers across multiple islands, providing center-based services four days per week, 152 days per year, in both the morning and the afternoon. The CNMI Head Start program served approximately 462 preschool-aged children in 2016-2017 and provided specialized services for young children with special needs.

CNMI have early learning guidelines for children birth through age 5 which address multiple domains including logic and reasoning, social studies, physical development and health, language development, literacy, mathematics, science, English language development, social and emotional development, approaches to learning, and creative arts expression. The guidelines are aligned with the Head Start Child Development and Learning Framework.

CNMI is developing a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS). Program quality assessment tools are also used for quality assurance and monitoring, which will be one component of the QRIS.
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment................................................................. 0
School districts that offer state program ...........................................NA
Income requirement........................................................................NA
Minimum hours of operation............................................................NA
Operating schedule.........................................................................NA
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....................................59
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ......................462
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ............................0

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending................................................................. $0
Local match required? ....................................................................NA
State Head Start spending............................................................... $0
State spending per child enrolled.................................................... $0
All reported spending per child enrolled* ....................................... $0

* 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.

NO PROGRAM

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $0
HDST** $4,924
K-12*** Data not available

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