

NO PROGRAM

Idaho does not have a state funded preschool program, but some TANF money goes to early education. The state invests \$1.5 million in TANF funding to support 162 slots for Head Start. Additionally, in 2018 the Migrant Seasonal Head Start Program received \$550,000 to serve 28 children through an Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant in Canyon and Twin Fall Counties.

Idaho's Early Learning eGuidelines cover a broad range of early learning domains, including: motor development, physical well-being, and health; approaches to learning and cognitive development; general knowledge; social-emotional development; and communication, language, and literacy. Approaches to learning, social and emotional development, and cognition domains include guidance through third grade while the other domains cover birth through kindergarten. The eGuidelines are aligned with the Idaho Core Standards, the Head Start Child Outcome Framework, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards. The Idaho State Head Start Collaboration Office, with the Idaho Department of Education, is planning to revise the Early Learning eGuidelines in 2019.

The Idaho STARS project is a multi-agency collaboration and operates in all 7 regions of the state. Idaho STARS encompasses four core function areas: Continuous Quality Improvement, Professional Development System (PDS), Operations and Policy, and Outreach. These core function areas include Idaho's QRIS – Steps to Quality (STQ), Professional Development System Registry, Training Development, Program Assessment, Child Care Health Consultants, Child Care Resource and Referrals, State Licensing and Subsidy support, and Training and Academic Scholarships. Participation in Idaho STARS is voluntary. Steps to Quality enrollment increased by 5% while the PDS Registry enrollment increased by 11% from January 2017 to January 2018.

A coalition of early childhood advocates continues to advance efforts for state investments in high-quality preschool options, and several polls have shown that close to 80% of respondents are supportive of state investments in early learning options for Idaho families. Idaho's early learning supporters continue outreach and education for early learning and have formed Preschool the Idaho Way as an effort to galvanize and organize support. Optimistically, program work is currently underway to offer planning and implementation grants in key Idaho areas that will allow local communities to create and sustain preschools that are centered by a collaborative community effort to increase high-quality preschool seats in their area.

While early learning supporters take meaningful steps to ensure that Idaho meets the demand for early education, the Statehouse has failed to move with the same urgency. The Idaho School Readiness Act is one policy solution that has been proposed to address needed state investments in quality programs for 4-year-old children. During the 2019 session, the bill failed an initial vote to be printed and considered in the House Education Committee, despite having the support of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Although Idaho residents appear to be in favor of early learning investments, the Idaho legislature has failed to pass meaningful legislation to address state-funded preschool.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

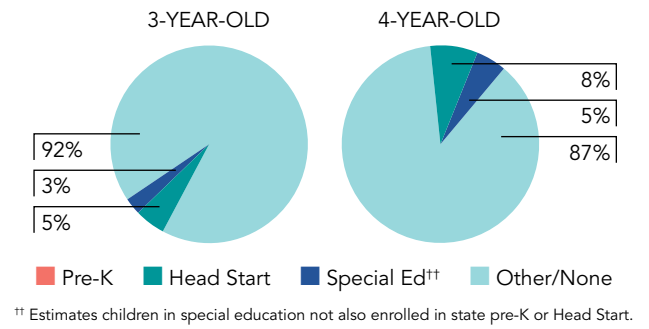
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
No Program

IDAHO

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	2,133
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	2,942
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

NO PROGRAM

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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

