The Republic of Palau does not have a state-funded preschool program meeting the criteria of this report, but the territory does support other early childhood education initiatives. The Palau Community Action Agency operated center-based Head Start for 350 3- to 5-year-olds throughout the Republic’s 16 states in 2017-2018. In addition, three of the predominant religious denominations (Roman Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist, and Palau Evangelical Church) have established private early childhood programs in Koror State. Many young children live in small communities outside Koror State and continue to lack access to early education because their communities do not meet the requirement that at least 10 eligible children enroll in the Head Start program. In these communities, the cost of access to and enrollment in private early childhood program is beyond parental means. However, in 2017-2018, the Palau Ministry of Education piloted 2 early childhood education programs serving 3- to 5-year-olds in the outlying states of Palau, specifically in Angaur and Kayangel states. These are areas that can only be accessed by boat and have populations of less than 10 preschool-aged children.

The Palau Early Childhood Comprehensive System (PECCS) established a National Framework on Early Childhood Development for School Readiness which partners families, communities and agencies to ensure the health and success of children in Palau.

In their Education for All National Plan for 2002-2010, the Ministry of Education identified “expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children,” as a chief goal. Ministry responsibilities include developing appropriate curricula for all public preschool, elementary school, and secondary school programs, and recommending minimum qualifications and requirements for preschool, elementary, and secondary school teachers.
PALAU

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 ......................... 1
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .......... 350
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ................. 0

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

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

Data are for the 2017-2018 school year, unless otherwise noted.