Maryland

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>3-year-olds</th>
<th>4-year-olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2019 DOLLARS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>3-year-olds</th>
<th>4-year-olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$2,709</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>$2,735</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$4,792</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$5,266</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$4,926</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$3,700</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$4,105</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
<td>$4,184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OVERVIEW


WHAT’S NEW

In January 2020, the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission) released final recommendations calling for free, full-day pre-K for 3- and 4-year olds from families with incomes up to 300% FPL through a mixed-delivery system. Recommendations also include full-day pre-K on a sliding scale for 4-year-olds between 300-600% FPL. In addition, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was awarded a renewal grant of $8.9 million under the PDG Birth through Five. Also, starting in FY 2020, state funding was provided to support preschool slots previously funded through the federal Preschool Development Grant (PDG).

BACKGROUND

Maryland created the Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP) in 1980 as a pilot preschool program in Baltimore City and Prince George's County. The Maryland Prekindergarten Program was started in 2002, giving local boards of education until 2007 to provide pre-K in public schools to all 4-year-olds from families with incomes at or below 185% FPL.

Maryland enacted the Prekindergarten Expansion Act in 2014, adding $4.3 million per year to increase access to full-day public pre-K for 4-year-olds from families with household incomes up to 300% FPL. That same year, Maryland was awarded a federal PDG of $15 million per year to support pre-K for children in families with incomes at or below 200% FPL. That funding supported 4,485 children in new and enhanced quality state pre-K slots in 2018-2019.

The Division of Early Childhood (DEC) in the MSDE is responsible for early care and education. Funding for the Maryland Prekindergarten Program is provided through a school funding formula and is based on the K–12 per pupil amount, to support eligible children attending half-day programs. DEC staff monitor pre-K programs annually using a self-developed checklist. State Pre-K programs are required to participate in Maryland EXCELS, the state's QRIS, and are able to access targeted technical assistance.

Maryland also has 53 “Judy Centers” located in Title 1 schools that work collaboratively with elementary schools and community-based providers to offer comprehensive, year-round early learning services for children birth to age 6.

Through recommendations from the Kirwan Commission, prekindergarten supplemental grants were provided to local boards of education, in which all additional prekindergarten students are provided full-day prekindergarten for fiscal years 2018 through 2020. The supplemental prekindergarten grant for eligible local boards equals the State share of the per pupil foundation amount multiplied by the number of full-time equivalent eligible children enrolled in a public full-day pre-K program on September 30 of the previous school year. The grant program phases in between 2018 and 2020. In 2020, the program was extended to all local boards of education for any 4-year-old served in full-day prekindergarten.

Governor Hogan's FY2021 budget proposes to increase the $26.6 million Prekindergarten Expansion Grants by an additional $20 million.
MARYLAND PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment ........................................... 32,062
School districts that offer state program ................................100%
Income requirement ...................................................... 185% FPL
Minimum hours of operation .......... 2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule ........................................... School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ................................ 9,060
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ......... 7,628
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ............ 2

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY | MD PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
--- | --- | --- | ---
Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | ✓
Curriculum supports | Approval process & supports | Approval process & supports | ✓
Teacher degree | BA | BA | ✓
Teacher specialized training | ECE | Specializing in pre-K | ✓
Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | □
Staff professional development | 6 credit hours/5 years (teachers); 24 hours/year (assistants); PD plans; Coaching (some teachers via pilot) | For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | □
Maximum class size | Average of 20 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | □
Staff-child ratio | 1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | ✓
Screening & referral | Vision, hearing, health & more | Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral | ✓
Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | ✓

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ........................................... $134,159,629
Local match required? ........................................... No
State Head Start spending ........................................... $1,800,000
State spending per child enrolled ................................... $4,184
All reported spending per child enrolled* .................................. $8,432

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

Data are for the 2018-2019 school year, unless otherwise noted.

1 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.