Michigan

OVERVIEW
Michigan preschool enrolled 37,140 children in 2018-2019, a decrease of 185 children from the prior year due to continued change at the local level from offering part-day to school-day classrooms. State funding totaled $244,600,000, down $8,022,571 (3%), when adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled $6,586 in 2018-2019, down $182 from 2017-2018, when adjusted for inflation. Michigan met 10 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW
The Michigan Department of Education was awarded a Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five renewal award in 2019 for $13.41 million annually through 2022 to strengthen the statewide infrastructure and programming needed to facilitate healthy early childhood development across the continuum from birth through age five via a mixed-delivery system that works better for Michigan's children and their families. When implemented, the grant aims to increase school readiness by: improving healthy pregnancies and births; supporting the whole child and family wellbeing; increasing access to and improving the quality of early care and education services; improving transitions for young children; and creating a coordinate and sustainable early childhood system.

During 2018-2019, $1 million was set aside from the total programming funding available in legislation to support programs wishing to change curricula, reducing the number of available slots by 138. A supplemental funding bill in December of 2018 added an additional $1 million available for supporting programs wishing to change the comprehensive curriculum in use. Additionally, during 2018-2019, the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) sought submissions from curricula publishers to be included on their approved curriculum list. Additional funding was appropriated for the 2019-2020 school year to restore the 138 slots and increase access to GSRP by 551 school-day slots.

BACKGROUND
Established in 1985, the GSRP, formerly known as Michigan School Readiness Program, provides preschool education for at-risk 4-year-olds, and is associated with the state’s early childhood initiative. Starting in 2013-2014, 90% of families had to be at or below 250% FPL with some exceptions for up to 300% FPL. Any family over-income for the remaining 10% must pay a fee on a locally determined sliding scale unless they are homeless, in foster care, or have an IEP recommending placement in an inclusive preschool setting. GSRP serves the majority of children in school-day programs to increase program dosage for children and better suit the needs of families.

Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) serve as program grantees, but they may distribute funds to local school districts and to providers in community-based settings to offer GSRP. GSRP providers must attain a three-star or higher rating in Michigan’s Great Start to Quality tiered rating and improvement system.

Overall ISD funding is determined by the level of poverty in each ISD and a funding formula, with final grantee awards based on both a community needs assessment and a formula component. State funding includes a transportation fund, as well as funding specifically earmarked for recruiting families and increasing public awareness of GSRP, and $300,000 is appropriated for ongoing statewide evaluation activities.
MICHIGAN GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM

ACCESS
Total state pre-K enrollment ............................................. 37,140
School districts that offer state program............................ 99% (counties)
Income requirement ......................................................... 250% FPL
Minimum hours of operation ............................. 3 hours/day; 4 days/week
Operating schedule ........................................... Determined locally
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .................. 12,378
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .... 23,432
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ........... 48

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>MI PRE-K REQUIREMENT</th>
<th>BENCHMARK</th>
<th>REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early learning &amp; development standards</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum supports</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>Approval process &amp; supports</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher degree</td>
<td>BA</td>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant teacher degree</td>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>CDA or equivalent</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff professional development</td>
<td>16 hours/year; PD plans; Coaching</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 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>20 or lower</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-child ratio</td>
<td>1:8 (4-year-olds)</td>
<td>1:10 or better</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening &amp; referral</td>
<td>Vision, hearing, health &amp; more</td>
<td>Vision, hearing &amp; health screenings; &amp; referral</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous quality</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations;</td>
<td>Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>improvement system</td>
<td>Data used for program improvement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

RESOURCES
Total state pre-K spending ........................................... $244,600,000
Local match required? ................................................ No
State Head Start spending ........................................... Not reported
State spending per child enrolled .................................. $6,586
All reported spending per child enrolled* ...................... $6,586

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE

- 3-YEAR-OLD
  - Pre-K: 11%
  - Head Start†: 3%
  - Special Ed††: 86%
  - Other/None: 0%

- 4-YEAR-OLD
  - Pre-K: 32%
  - Head Start†: 5%
  - Special Ed††: 1%
  - Other/None: 62%

† 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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

- PRE-K*: $6,586
- HDST**: $10,794
- K-12***: $12,344

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