

# OVERVIEW

During the 2021-2022 school year, Guam preschool enrolled 57 children, an increase of seven from the prior year, as the program began to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. State spending totaled \$287,425, a decrease of \$129,309 (31%), adjusted for inflation since last year. State spending per child equaled \$5,043 in 2021-2022, down \$382 from 2020-2021, adjusted for inflation. Guam met 6 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

#### WHAT'S NEW

In December 2022 Guam was awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B–5) renewal grant for \$2.8 million. Funds are planned to be used for island-wide systemic improvements, parent engagement activities, and school readiness activities.

### BACKGROUND

The Guam Department of Education's publicly funded Pilot Prekindergarten Program is available in all four regions of the territory's single school district. Each region has one Prekindergarten Program classroom located within a public school. All age-eligible children may enroll in the program, which has no income limit for eligibility. Guam's Prekindergarten Program operates six hours a day, five days a week, following the school year or academic calendar, and providing 978 hours of services per year. Both lunch and breakfast are served to children attending the program.

The program's maximum class size is 18 children, with a teacher-to-student ratio of 1 to 9. Lead teachers are required to have an associate degree with early childhood education specialization and either pre-K or pre-K to 2nd grade certification. Lead teachers also are required to participate in 30 clock hours of in-service professional development annually. Assistant teachers are required to hold a high school diploma, but are not required to participate in any professional development.

A formal evaluation of the program was conducted by the Guam Department of Education's Administrator for Research, Planning & Evaluation in 2018 and is currently under review by the Guam Education Board.



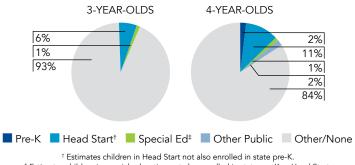
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# GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

# ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment
School districts that offer state program100%
Income requirement No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation 6 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating scheduleSchool or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 534
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 40

## PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



\* Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

POLICY	GUAM 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	$\checkmark$
Teacher degree	AA	ВА	
Teacher specialized training	ECE	Specializing in pre-K	$\checkmark$
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	CDA or equivalent	
Staff professional development	30 hours/year (teachers only); PD plans (teachers only); Coaching	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	
Maximum class size	18 (4-year-olds)	20 or lower	
Staff-child ratio	1:9 (4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	$\checkmark$
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	
Continuous quality improvement system	None	Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement	

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages. \* Indicates that while policy meets the benchmark, it is not being implemented fully.

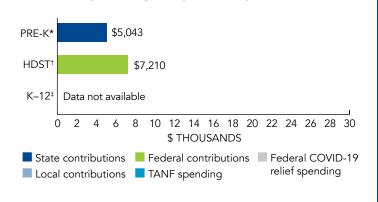
# RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$287,425
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$829,376
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,043
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,043

\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

 $\dagger$  Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

 $\pm$  K–12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.



SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

6