

# Hawaii

## NO PROGRAM

Hawaii does not have a state-funded preschool initiative that meets the criteria established in this report. The state funds several initiatives that provide early learning services to targeted populations. In the early 1980s, the Preschool Open Doors project was created to provide subsidy payments to low-income parents to purchase preschool services for their 4-year-olds and, on a case-by-case basis as funding allows, for 3-year-olds with special needs. Parents choose their child's service provider and payments are made directly to the provider. Income eligibility, which is set at 85 percent of the state median income, is reassessed every six months.

Through the federal Race to the Top (RTT) grant, Hawaii's Department of Education (DOE) subsidizes preschool education for eligible low-income families in privately operated preschool programs within two "Zones of School Innovation" school districts on Oahu and the island of Hawaii. Eligible families receive tuition assistance payments via the existing Preschool Open Doors project through the Hawaii Department of Human Services. However, the state DOE maintains fiscal oversight and data collection responsibilities. DOE funding is also provided for pre-and post-assessments of children in this program to support longitudinal studies of the children's progress and educational outcomes.

Started in 2002, Hawaii's Pre-Plus Program supports the construction of preschool facilities on public school campuses in an attempt to increase access to and capacity for full-day preschool services for low-income children in targeted areas. The state offers competitive contracts for private providers to operate on these sites with minimal utilities costs and no lease fees. Since the start of the program, 17 Pre-Plus facilities have been built. There has not been funding for additional construction, but there are hopes for capital improvement project grant funds to build more Pre-Plus facilities within the next five years.

The Preschool Demonstration Program, operated through the DOE, is designed to provide very young vulnerable children with developmentally appropriate and cognitively stimulating activities while expanding inclusion opportunities for 3- and 4-year olds with disabilities as described in IDEA Part B. The program recognizes the importance of including research-based early childhood educational practices, parenting skills, and family literacy strategies. Preschool programs are located in community elementary schools, facilitating a smooth transition to kindergarten. Currently, there are three preschool programs throughout the state and plans to expand to more schools in the next few years with the anticipated establishment of a statewide preschool program under the Executive Office of Early Learning.

In July 2012, the Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL) was established to coordinate efforts on behalf of Hawaii's children from prenatal to age 8 by creating partnerships and aligning policies and programs for health, safety and school readiness. The Early Learning Advisory Board (formerly the State Advisory Council on Early Care and Education) will work with the EOEL in its efforts to integrate a comprehensive early learning system in Hawaii.

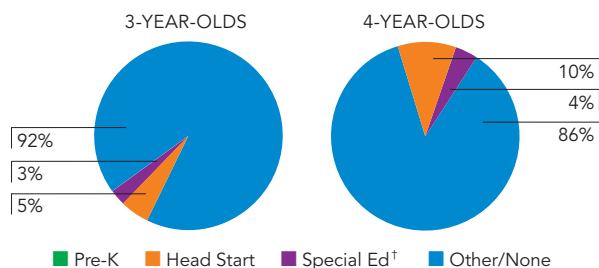
ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	0
School districts that offer state program .....	NA
Income requirement .....	NA
Hours of operation .....	NA
Operating schedule .....	NA
Special education enrollment .....	1,579
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 .....	2,683
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards .....	NA	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	NA	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	NA	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	NA	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	NA	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	NA		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	NA		
4-year-olds .....	NA		
Screening/referral .....	NA	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
and support services			
Meals .....	NA	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	NA	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET  
**No Program**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$0
Local match required? .....	NA
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 for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

\*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

