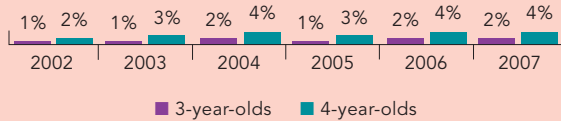
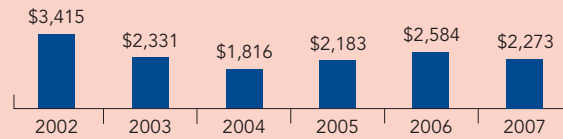


# Nebraska

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2007 DOLLARS)



Nebraska's Early Childhood Grant Program began as a pilot program in 1992 and was expanded through legislation in 2001. The program serves mostly 3- and 4-year-old children, although children may be enrolled as early as 6 weeks of age. Funding is provided directly to public schools and educational service units, but services are also offered through partnerships in settings such as private child care centers, family resource centers, and Head Start agencies. Collaborative funding efforts are required by the state, and all grantees must cover at least half of their program costs using other federal, state or local sources.

At least 70 percent of each program's funding must be used to serve children meeting at least one of four criteria set by the state. These priority areas are: children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, English Language Learners, children born prematurely or with low birth weight, and children of teen parents who have not completed high school. A sliding payment scale is used for children who do not meet these risk factors.

Nebraska passed legislation in 2005 allowing 4-year-olds in approved school-based prekindergarten programs to be included in the K-12 state aid formula. As a result, \$1.7 million was available in new or expansion grants for the 2006-2007 program year.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
34	15

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
35*	9

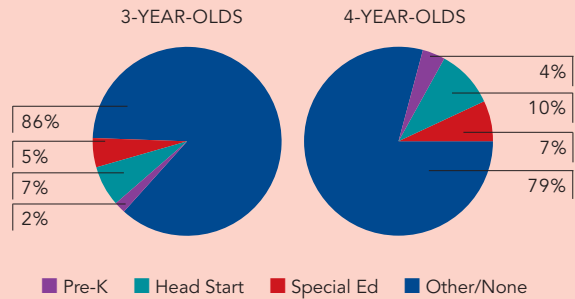
\* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

# NEBRASKA EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	1,618 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	15% <sup>2</sup>
Income requirement.....	185% FPL
Hours of operation .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Academic year
Special education enrollment .....	2,937
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	4,361
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	0

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



## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards .....	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Certification and EC endorsement	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	12 cr. hours in EC or equivalent	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	12 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	20		
4-year-olds .....	20		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:10		
4-year-olds .....	1:10		
Screening/referral .....	Support services only <sup>4</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Breakfast, lunch and snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

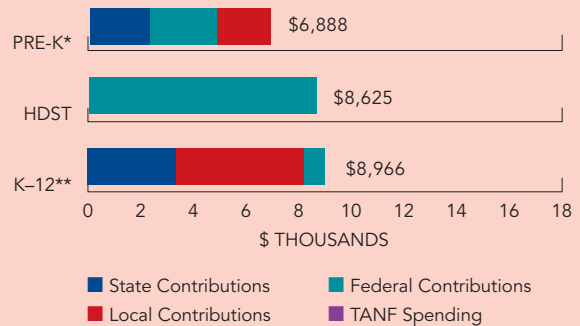
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**8**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$3,677,596
Local match required? .....	Yes, 50% of total funding
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$2,273
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$6,888

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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

\*\*K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> This total includes 145 children younger than age 3.

<sup>2</sup> The number of districts offering the state program has not changed, but due to redistricting, the total number of districts in the state decreased from 460 to 254. This caused an increase in the reported percentage of districts offering the program.

<sup>3</sup> Part-day programs are required to operate a minimum of 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week. Full-day programs operate a minimum of 6 hours per day, but most full-day programs operate 10 hours per day and 5 days per week.

<sup>4</sup> Support services include two parent conferences and two home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, transition to kindergarten activities, and referrals for other services based on need. Vision, hearing, health, developmental, and dental screenings and referrals are determined locally.