

n 1995, the Virginia Preschool Initiative began serving at-risk 4-year-old children who were not enrolled in existing preschool programs. Eligibility for the program is determined locally and is based on risk factors such as poverty, homelessness, having parents with limited education, family underemployment, parent incarceration, and limited English proficiency. Funding is allocated directly to public school districts and local departments of social services, which may provide services directly or subcontract with Head Start or private child care programs. Programs may choose to operate on a half-day schedule at 50 percent of the fullday funding allocation. Funded communities are required to contribute matching funds to the program, based on a local composite index of districts' resources.

In 2004-2005, funding allocations increased to serve 90 percent of unserved at-risk children. Most recently, the state General Assembly increased per-pupil funding for the 2006-2007 program year to provide services to all unserved at-risk 4-year-olds.

Beginning in 2004, the state began developing early learning standards, starting with literacy and mathematics. As of 2007, the standards have been expanded to include science, history, social science, personal and social development, and physical and motor standards.



* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

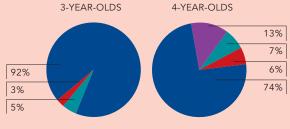
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VIRGINIA PRESCHOOL INITIATIVE

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	12,501
School districts that offer state program	74%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation3 hou 6 hours/day (full-d	
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	9,153
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	12,290
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



Pre-K Head Start Special Ed Other/None

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	
Teacher degree	BA (public), CDA (nonpublic)	ВА	
training	License + endorsement in pre-K (public), s CDA requirements (nonpublic) ²	Specializing in pre-K	
Assistant teacher degree.	HSD or GED	CDA or equivalent	BENCHMARKS
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	MET
3-year-olds	NA 	20 or lower	7
Staff-child ratio 3-year-olds	NA 	1:10 or better	
U U	Vision, hearing, health; and support services ³	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	₫
Meals	Breakfast and snack ⁴		V
	.Site visits and other monitoring ⁵		

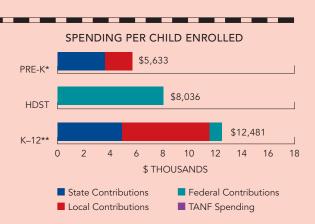
RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$44,713,417
Local match required?i	Yes; based on composite ndex of local ability to pay
State spending per child enrolle	ed\$3,577
All reported spending per child	enrolled*\$5,633

 $\star\,$ 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.



¹ Most programs operate on a full-day schedule.

² Teachers in public schools are required to hold a license with endorsements in the areas in which they are working. Teachers not located in public schools are required to have specialized training in early childhood education as determined by the fiscal agent.

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³ Developmental and dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, and referral to social services. Other comprehensive services and the number of required annual parent conferences or home visits are determined locally.

⁴ Half-day programs must provide breakfast and snack. Full-day programs must provide lunch in addition to breakfast and snack.