

# NO PROGRAM

The Republic of Palau does not have a state-funded preschool program meeting the criteria of this report, but does support other early childhood education initiatives. Palau Early Childhood Care and Education services come from two different systems in the Republic of Palau. The Ministry of Education serves 5- to 8-year-olds in public schools and the Palau Community Action Agency serves 3- to 5-year-olds in community-based, federally-funded Head Start programs throughout the island.

The Ministry of Education is also responsible for providing Special Education services for the ministry and the Palau Community Action Agency. In addition to this, the Ministry of Education as part of the Compact of Free Association, received additional funding to provide services to children from birth to age two. The Special Education Department, under the Ministry of Education, worked with the interagency team (the Ministry of Health and Head Start) to provide services, which began during the 2025-26 school year.

In addition, three of the predominant religious denominations (Roman Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist, and Palau Evangelical Church) have established private early childhood programs in Koror State. Many young children living in small communities outside Koror State have no access to early education because their communities do not meet the requirement of at least ten eligible children enrolled in the Head Start program.

During the 2021-2022 school year, the Ministry of Education established kindergarten in all public elementary schools. The Palau Early Childhood Comprehensive System (PECCS) established a National Framework on Early Childhood Development for School Readiness which partners with families, communities, and agencies to ensure the health and success of children in Palau.

The Ministry is in the process of starting an early childhood teacher cohort to ensure that kindergarten teachers have continuing education support.

ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
None Served		None Served		No Program

**PALAU**

**ACCESS**

Total state pre-K enrollment .....	0
School districts that offer state program .....	NA
Income requirement .....	NA
Minimum hours of operation .....	NA
Operating schedule .....	NA
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	4
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	230
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	Not reported

**QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST**

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**RESOURCES**

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$0
Local match required? .....	NA
State Head Start spending .....	Not reported
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 includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

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

**SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED**

