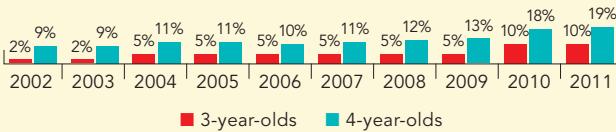
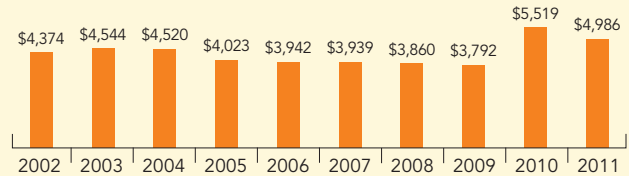


# California

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2011 DOLLARS)



California became one of the first states in the nation to provide state-funded preschool education, when it introduced the State Preschool Program (SPP) in 1965. In the 2007-2008 school year, California also established the Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Program (PKFLP) modeled after SPP. PKFLP offered half- and full-day services with an added literacy component to children from families at or below 75 percent of the state median income (SMI), who were receiving protective services, or were at risk for abuse, neglect, or family violence.

Enacted in 2008, the California State Preschool Program Act called for the state's multiple preschool programs to receive streamlined funding. As of July 2009, all part-day and full-day programs in SPP, PKFLP, and the General Child Care programs that served preschool age children were consolidated into the California State Preschool Program (CSPP). The CSPP serves 3- and 4-year-olds through private nonprofit agencies, local education agencies, college, and community action agencies. Families must have an income of 75 percent of the SMI to be eligible, though this may be waived for those children receiving protective services or who have been referred as at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

State funding for the program is available through a competitive application process open to school districts, faith-based and private child care centers, Head Start agencies, and other public agencies. The 2009-2010 school year was the first time students were served through the newly streamlined CSPP. The CSPP provides both full-day and part-day services to families based on their eligibility and need for services. Children whose families lose their need or eligibility for full-day services may remain in the part-day program through the end of the program year. The CSPP also works with Head Start and other state-funded and federal child care assistance programs to provide comprehensive services to children and their families.

The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 gradually moves the kindergarten cutoff date from December to September over five years in an effort to ensure that all children are 5 years old when they begin kindergarten. Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, Transitional Kindergarten will provide a year of early childhood education services to those 4-year-olds no longer age-eligible for kindergarten. The program will follow kindergarten regulations in terms of funding, class size, standards, and serving English language learners, though locally determined kindergarten curricula must be adjusted to be age and developmentally appropriate.

The California Preschool Learning Foundations, developed in 2008, are a set of early learning standards focusing on social-emotional development, language and literacy, mathematics, and English language development. Volume 2, focusing on visual and performing arts and physical development and health, was released in the December 2011. The Desired Result for Children and Families system, which has been aligned with the Preschool Learning Foundations Volume I, is used to record children's development as well as to plan curriculum and other developmentally appropriate activities. Volume 3 will be released in 2012 and will include History/Social Science and Science.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
23	5

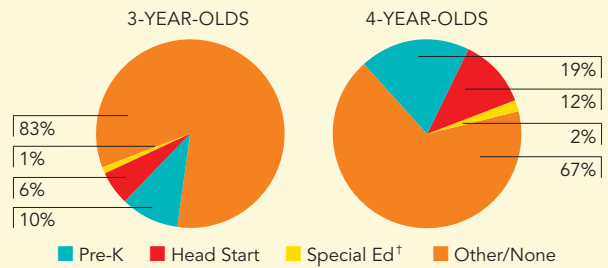
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
13	18

# CALIFORNIA STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM & PREKINDERGARTEN AND FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM (PKFLP)

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	149,756 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program .....	97% (counties)
Income requirement .....	75% SMI <sup>2</sup>
Hours of operation .....	3 hours/day (part-day), or locally determined (full-day); 5 days/week
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	43,252
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .....	93,096
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 state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards.....	Published but not yet implemented <sup>4</sup>	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	CDA <sup>5</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training.....	Meets CDA requirements <sup>5</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	None <sup>6</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	105 clock hours/5 years	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	No limit <sup>7</sup>		
4-year-olds .....	No limit		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:8 <sup>7</sup>		
4-year-olds .....	1:8		
Screening/referral .....	Health, developmental; and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Depend on length of program day <sup>9</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Other monitoring <sup>10</sup>	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

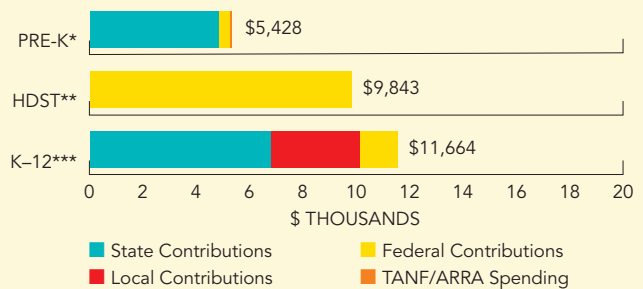
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

**3**

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$746,704,425 <sup>11</sup>
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$4,986
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$5,428

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



\* 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 2010-2011 year includes funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).  
 \*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.  
 Data are for the '10-'11 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> The enrollment figure is a duplicated count as children can be enrolled in multiple programs within the State Preschool Program.  
<sup>2</sup> Children receiving protective services and those who are at risk for abuse, neglect, or exploitation are not subject to the income requirement.  
<sup>3</sup> Part-day programs typically operate for a school or academic year, 175 days per year. Some programs operate a full calendar year (246 days) and exceptions to the days per year can be granted.  
<sup>4</sup> The Preschool Learning Foundations Volume 1 were in effect for the 2010-2011 year. Volume 2, which includes Visual and Performing Arts, Physical Development and Health, was released in December 2011 but not yet in effect. Volume 3 will be released in 2012 and will include History/Social Science and Science.  
<sup>5</sup> The Child Development Associate Teacher permit is the minimum requirement for the lead teacher in the classroom, though California does not use the term "lead teacher." The permit requires 12 units in ECE or child development and 50 days of work experience in an instructional capacity. It may be renewed one time for a five-year period. A CDA credential issued in California meets temporary alternative qualifications for the Associate Teacher permit. A teacher may also have the full Child Development Teacher permit, which requires a minimum of 40 semester units of education including a minimum of 24 units in ECE or child development, and 175 days of work experience, or a Master Teacher permit.  
<sup>6</sup> There is no degree requirement for an Assistant Teacher in CSPP. The optional Child Development Associate Teacher Permit requires 6 credits in ECE or CD.

<sup>7</sup> Although there is no limit to class size, programs typically enroll 24 children in the class.  
<sup>8</sup> Decisions regarding vision and hearing screenings are made at the local level. A physical exam and immunizations are required for program entry, but not mandated by the state. Health and social services referral and follow-up to meet family needs are required. Other support services include annual parent conferences or home visits, parent education or job training, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, child health services, referral for social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.  
<sup>9</sup> Licensing laws and regulations require that all part-day (3.5 hour) programs provide at least a snack. Lunch and two snacks are required but breakfast is optional for all full-day (6.5 hour) programs. Contractors must meet the nutritional requirements specified by the federal Child Care Food Program or the National School Lunch Program, and programs must provide breakfast or lunch if specified in the original application for services.  
<sup>10</sup> California has moved from a regularly scheduled visit policy, to a new monitoring schedule that is determined based upon program information (consultant communication with agency staff, audit information, fiscal information, other concerns), which results in as-needed site visits. This no longer meets NIEER's requirement for monitoring.  
<sup>11</sup> ARRA funds represent \$7,346,253 of this amount.