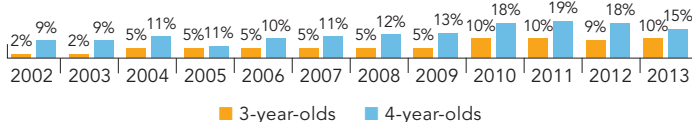
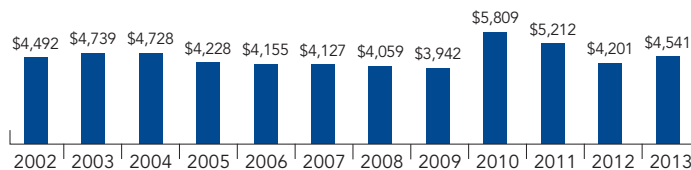


# California

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2013 DOLLARS)



Since 1965, California has provided state-funded preschool through the State Preschool Program (SPP). The program provides preschool services to children who are at risk for neglect, abuse, or family violence or who are receiving protective services. In the 2007-2008 school year, the Prekindergarten and Family Literacy Program (PKFLP), molded after SPP, was founded. PKFLP offered half- and full-day services with an additional literacy component for children from families at or below 70 percent of the state median income (SMI).

Enacted in 2008, California State Preschool Program Act streamlined the state’s multiple early childhood education programs into one funding stream. 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 merged in the California State Preschool Program (CSPP). The CSPP provides services to 3- and 4-year-olds through local education agencies, community agencies, private college, and nonprofit agencies. To be qualified, families must have an income at or below 70 percent of the SMI, though this may be waived for children receiving protective services or those who are at risk of exploitation, neglect, or abuse. The streamlined CSPP served students for the first time during the 2009-2010 school year.

Head Start agencies, school districts, faith-based and private child care centers, and other public agencies are qualified to apply for state grants through a competitive application process. The CSPP provides both full-day and part-day services based on families’ eligibility and needs. Children whose families lose their eligibility for full-day services may stay in the part-day program through the end of the program year. CSPP works with Head Start as well as other state and federal assistance programs to provide comprehensive services to children and families. Starting in the 2012-2013 year, a family fee was introduced for part-day preschool.

California has gradually moved the kindergarten cutoff age from December to September to so that all children are 5 years old at the beginning of kindergarten, under the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010. The Act also created Transitional Kindergarten (TK), which offers two-year kindergarten to those 4-year-olds no longer age-eligible for the one-year kindergarten program. TK was first offered in the 2012-2013 school year and uses the kindergarten regulations regarding class size, standards, funding, and serving English language learners, though locally determined kindergarten curricula must be age- and developmentally appropriate. Students enrolled in TK are considered by the state as in the first year of a two-year kindergarten program rather than in pre-K.

Funding received through the Race to the Top–Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) is being used to implement a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) to sustain quality improvement efforts in areas of teachers and teaching, child development and school readiness, and program and environment quality. The funding is not limited to the pre-K program but rather is for early learning broadly in the state.

Early learning standards focusing on social emotional development, language and literacy, mathematics, and English language development, called The California Preschool Learning Foundations, were developed in 2008. Released in December 2011, Volume 2 focused on visual and performing arts as well as health and physical development. The third and final volume, addressing science and history/social science, was released in September 2013. The Learning Foundations are intended to help track children’s development and guide the choice of curricula.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
27	7

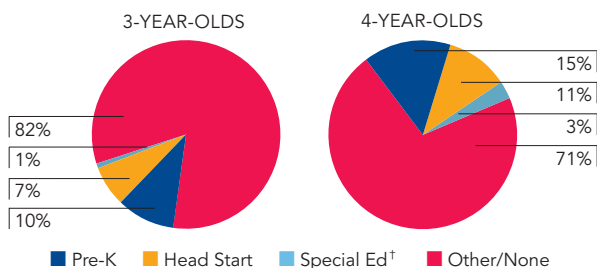
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
17	19

# CALIFORNIA STATE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	129,577
School districts that offer state program .....	97% (counties)
Income requirement .....	75% FPL <sup>1</sup>
Hours of operation .....	3 to 6 hours/day, 5 days/week <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	44,867
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	87,400
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	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 .....	Comprehensive <sup>3</sup>	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	California Child Development Associate Teacher Permit <sup>4</sup>	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Child Development Associate Teacher Permit <sup>4</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD <sup>5</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>6</sup>		
4-year-olds .....	No limit		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:8 <sup>6</sup>		
4-year-olds .....	1:8		
Screening/referral .....	Immunizations, developmental <sup>7</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input type="checkbox"/>
and support services			
Meals .....	Depends on length of program day <sup>8</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Other monitoring <sup>9</sup>	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

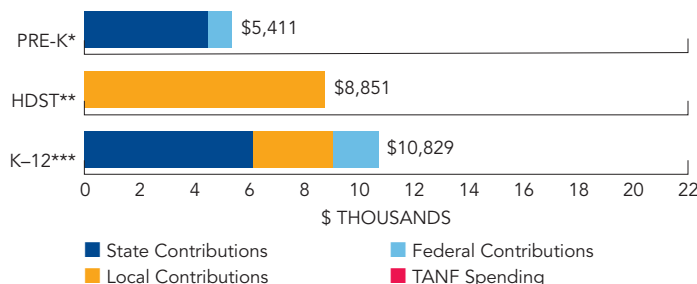
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## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$588,454,032
Local match required? .....	No
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$4,541
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$5,411

\* 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 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.  
 \*\*\* K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



<sup>1</sup> Children receiving protective services, whose families are homeless or receiving CalWORKS cash aid, or who are at risk for abuse, neglect, or exploitation are not subject to the income requirement.  
<sup>2</sup> The part-day program is funded to operate at least 3 hours per day for a minimum of 175 days per year. The school-day program is funded to operate at least 6 hours per day for a minimum of 246 days per year. The majority of programs currently operate approximately 10 hours per day.  
<sup>3</sup> The Preschool Learning Foundations Volume 2, which includes visual and performing arts, physical development, and health, was released in December 2011 and in effect for the 2011-2012 school year. Volume 3 was released in 2012 and includes history/social science and science.  
<sup>4</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." It exceeds the requirement of the CDA. 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>5</sup> Assistant teachers in the California State Preschool Program are required to have a High School Diploma or equivalent. The optional Child Development Assistant Teacher Permit requires six credits in ECE or CD.  
<sup>6</sup> Although there is no limit to class size, programs typically enroll 24 children in the class.  
<sup>7</sup> Immunizations and physical and developmental assessments are required by Title 22. If screenings are not provided by the parents, local programs must address them. 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>8</sup> Licensing laws and regulations require that all part-day programs provide at least a snack. One or two meals and two snacks are required for all programs longer than 6 hours. Contractors must meet the nutritional requirements specified by the federal Child Care Food Program or the National School Lunch Program.  
<sup>9</sup> As of the 2010-2011 school year, California has moved from a regularly scheduled visit policy, to a new monitoring schedule determined based upon program information (consultant communication with agency staff, audit information, fiscal information, other concerns), which result in only 'as-needed' site visits.