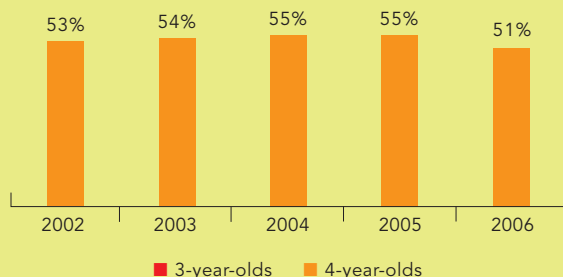
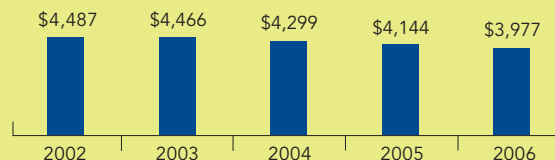


Georgia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



The Georgia Pre-K Program was the first preschool education program in the United States to make slots universally available to all 4-year-olds in a state. Georgia's program began offering unrestricted voluntary enrollment in 1995, after operating for two years on a restricted basis. Georgia Pre-K is funded through the state lottery, and per-pupil funding depends on local program factors such as teacher qualifications, the number of students in the class, and the program zone (metropolitan or non-metropolitan area). For example, programs with certified teachers receive a higher reimbursement rate than programs with teachers that have a 4-year degree without certification. Services through this initiative may be offered in a variety of settings, including public schools, private child care centers, Head Start agencies, faith-based organizations, state colleges, and universities.

All programs must follow the Bright from the Start Pre-K Guidelines and Content Standards. The Content Standards are aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards for Kindergarten and also with the Georgia Early Learning Standards for birth through age 3. The Pre-K Content Standards require ongoing child assessments to individualize instruction and to document and keep parents informed about children's progress. The state conducts on-site program monitoring to ensure adherence to the Pre-K Content Standards and other quality standards.

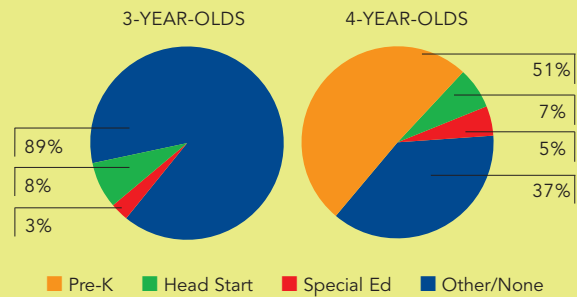
After a 2-year pilot, the Work Sampling System will be implemented statewide during the 2006-2007 school year. All Pre-K Program staff will be trained on the effective use of this assessment system. Georgia's Pre-K Program developed a Progress Report to be used along with the Work Sampling System.

ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
2	None Served	13

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	72,902
School districts that offer state program	100% (counties)
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	6.5 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	10,257
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	21,546
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

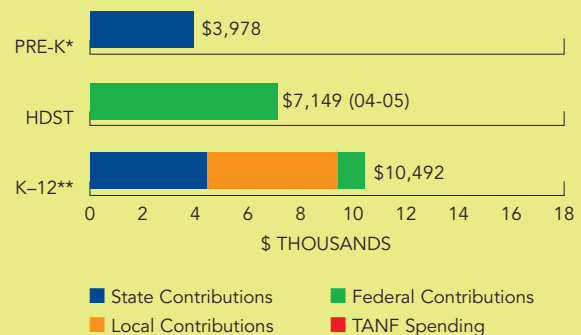
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	AA or Montessori diploma	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	Degree in ECE or meet Montessori requirements ¹	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD or equivalent + experience	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/ referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, developmental, dental, immunizations, and support services ²	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and snack ³	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$289,894,973
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,977
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$2,047

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 '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ The state-level public school certification covers pre-K-grade 5. Local school systems typically require that pre-K teachers be certified.

² Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, transition to kindergarten activities, and special education through the Department of Education.

³ Snack requirements depend on the feeding schedule used by each school.