New Hampshire

New Hampshire does not have a state-funded pre-K program, as defined in this report. However, the state provides a mixed-delivery system to support early childhood education in local communities. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) licenses early childhood programs and administers preschool scholarships through its child-care assistance program for low-income families. The Department of Education (DOE) oversees early childhood special education programming and progress monitoring of IDEA Part B funded preschool programs. During the 2020-2021 school year, New Hampshire school districts used Title I and local funds to implement voluntary preschool programs in public schools which provide pre-K to approximately 25% of 4-year-olds in New Hampshire. Also, New Hampshire’s Community Action Programs served 1,563 children before school entry through Head Start and Early Head Start in 2020-2021.

DOE issues both early childhood education and early childhood special education teacher licensure endorsements for nursery through grade three. DHHS issues voluntary endorsements and credentials for professionals serving young children and their families through the New Hampshire Early Childhood and After School Professional Development System.

The New Hampshire Early Learning Guidelines were introduced in 2005 and address development and learning for children birth through age five. The guidelines cover multiple domains including approaches to learning, communication and literacy development, social and emotional development, physical development, creative expression and aesthetic development, and health and safety. The guidelines are aligned with New Hampshire’s academic standards, as well as New Hampshire Kindergarten Readiness Indicators. The state’s new Early Learning Standards, released in 2015, align with the New Hampshire College and Career Ready Standards, by expanding to include emergent literacy, early numeracy, and science and social studies.

DHHS’s Child Development Bureau administers New Hampshire’s QRIS, which is currently under revision. Categories of standards in the proposed revision include: Curriculum, Environment, and Assessment; Engaging Families and Communities as Partners; Early Childhood Administrator and Educator Qualifications; and Measured Standards of Environmental Quality and Teacher-Child Interactions using the ERS and CLASS, respectively.

New Hampshire received two Preschool Development Grants Birth through Five (PDG B–5): a $3.8 million planning grant followed by a $26.8 million renewal to lead a collaborative effort between the University of New Hampshire, DOE and DHHS, the Governor’s Early Childhood Council, and New Hampshire’s early childhood advocates and practitioners, to create a collective vision for quality early childhood care and education to ensure that all children and families of New Hampshire are healthy, learning and thriving.

Additionally, in December 2022, the University of New Hampshire was awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B–5) one-year planning grant for $3,948,368.

**ACCESS RANKINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-YEAR-OLDS</th>
<th>3-YEAR-OLDS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Program</td>
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**RESOURCE RANKINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE SPENDING</th>
<th>ALL REPORTED SPENDING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Program</td>
<td>No Program</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

No Program
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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 ............................ 1,880
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ........... 1,146
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 ......................... 0

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ................................................................. $0
Local match required? ................................................................. NA
State Head Start spending ............................................................... $0
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.

NO PROGRAM

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* $0
HDST† $13,992
K-12‡ $20,337

‡ Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in Head Start.

Data are for the 2021-2022 school year, unless otherwise noted.