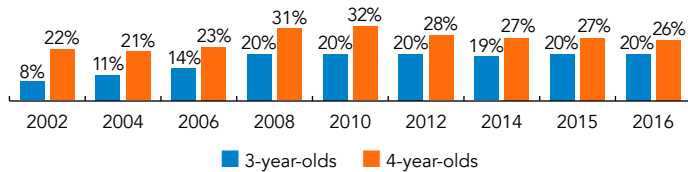
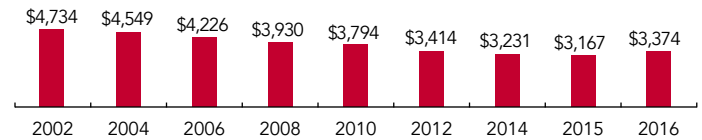


# Illinois

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2016 DOLLARS)



In 1985, the Illinois Prekindergarten Program for At-Risk Children was founded. Beginning in 1998, the program has been funded through the state Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG), which also supports the Prevention Initiative for children birth to age three. ECBG funding is required to be used to serve children age three or younger in addition to 4-year-olds. The Illinois Preschool for All initiative began in 2006 with the goal of providing preschool education to all 3- and 4-year-olds in Illinois by 2012. The program operates in all counties in the state but budget constraints have prevented the program from serving all children who want to attend. Illinois has not had a full state budget since July 2015. However, the ECBG did receive a \$79.5 million dollar increase for the 2016-2017 school year.

Preschool for All is provided through public schools, private child care, Head Start, family child care homes, faith-based centers, higher education institutions, and regional offices of education. Funding for the program is awarded on a competitive basis. By July 2016, all pre-K teachers were required to meet bilingual education requirements. Preschool for All programs are required to provide instruction in children's home language if there are 20 or more English Language Learners (ELL) with the same home language enrolled in a program. Language of instruction is determined locally when there are fewer than 20 ELLs speaking the same home language—however English as a Second Language and other home language supports may be provided.

Children who most need the program are prioritized for enrollment and children must have at least two risk factors to be eligible for Preschool for All. In their funding proposals, agencies and school districts define "at-risk" status. Risk factors include (among others) low income, history of family neglect, violence, or abuse, exposure to drug or alcohol abuse in the family, developmental delays, low parent education, and homelessness or unstable housing. The second level of priority for Preschool for All enrollment is for families with incomes at 400 percent of the federal poverty level. However, in light of limited funding, no programs have funding to serve children at this second priority level.

Illinois received federal Race to the Top and Race to the Top–Early Learning Challenge grants. The state used this funding in part to implement a Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS), ExceleRate Illinois, beginning in 2013-2014. Preschool for All programs are required to participate in the QRIS. Funding from these grants was also used to revise the Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards to align them with Common Core State Standards and the Head Start Framework and implement the KIDS assessment. In 2014, Illinois was awarded a competitive federal Preschool Development Grant – Expansion Grant for \$20 million. During the 2015-2016 school year, 3,110 children were served in the state using this funding, including 2,559 new slots and 551 enhanced Preschool for All slots.

Illinois will implement the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) statewide starting with the 2017-2018 school year. The process to develop this kindergarten assessment began in 2010-2011. KIDS was developed based on the Desired Results Developmental Profile-School Readiness and it has been piloted, field tested, and calibrated.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
21	3

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
34	38

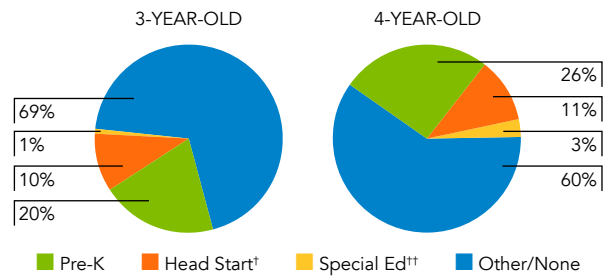
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET	
CURRENT STANDARDS	NEW STANDARDS
8	7

# ILLINOIS PRESCHOOL FOR ALL

## ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.....	73,118
School districts that offer state program .....	100% (counties/parishes)
Income requirement.....	No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation.....	2.5 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule.....	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	22,650
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 .....	33,572
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

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



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.

†† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	IL PRE-K REQUIREMENT	CURRENT BENCHMARK	MEETS CURRENT BENCHMARK?	NEW BENCHMARK	MEETS NEW BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	New in 2015-2016	—	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE <sup>9</sup>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Educator license <sup>11</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	120 hours/5 years (teachers only); PD plans; coaching <sup>15</sup>	For teachers: At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 (3- & 4-year-olds)	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more; Support services	Vision, hearing, health & at least one support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Snack (part-day); Lunch, snack (school-day)	At least one meal/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	Discontinued	—
Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations in randomly selected classrooms (less than once/year); Improvement plan	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<b>8</b>		
				<b>7</b>	

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$246,729,910
Local match required? .....	No
State Head Start spending .....	\$0
State spending per child enrolled .....	\$3,374
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$3,854

\* 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

