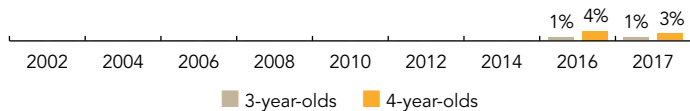
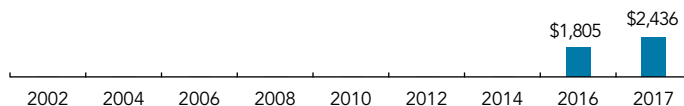


Mississippi

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2017 DOLLARS)



The Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013 established Mississippi's first state-funded, voluntary pre-K program. The Early Learning Collaborative Act provides funding to local communities to establish, expand, support, and facilitate the successful implementation of quality early childhood education and development services. Implementation began in January 2014, with capacity to serve 1,774 children. Pre-K programs in Head Start centers, licensed child-care facilities, and public, parochial, or private schools formed and maintained a stakeholder council called an Early Learning Collaborative, involving a minimum of two of those program auspices. The Early Learning Collaborative designated a Lead Partner of either a public school or other nonprofit entity with the instructional expertise and operational capacity to manage a Collaborative's Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) program.

The 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years saw steady state funding for preschool in Mississippi, at \$3 million per year, but state funding increased to \$4 million in 2016-2017. In January 2017, four new collaboratives were funded and used the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year as a planning period. Full services in these new collaboratives launched with the 2017-2018 school year. As long as the Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013 is funded, current collaboratives that meet program requirements will continue to be funded.

The voluntary pre-K program intends to improve quality, increase access to high-quality pre-K programs for 4-year-olds, and prepare more children to enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school. The program also supports local programs to improve quality, and families have access to information about the pre-K program. Pre-K programs will increase their collaboration with other early childhood education programs and related services. Pre-K programs also implement an integrated, effective system of early childhood curriculum, instruction, assessment, and program evaluation, including curricula aligned with the MDE's Early Learning Standards for Classrooms Serving Four-Year-Old Children. In the 2016-2017 school year, the program implemented the LAP-3 assessment in order to identify children who may need additional interventions or gifted services.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
41	27

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
41	27

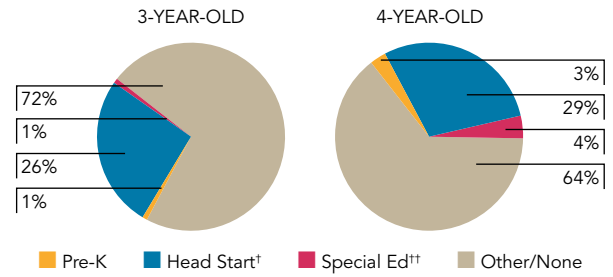
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET	
CURRENT STANDARDS	NEW STANDARDS
10	9

MISSISSIPPI EARLY LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment.....	1,642
School districts that offer state program	10%
Income requirement	No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation.....	6 hours/day; 5 days/week
Operating schedule.....	School or academic year
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	4,125
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	21,333
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	MS 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, CD	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	AA in ECE or CD	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	15 hours/year; PD plans (classrooms on probation)	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	14 (3-year-olds); 20 (4-year-olds)	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:7 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (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	At least one meal/day	At least one meal/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discontinued	—
Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			10		
				9	

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$4,000,000
Local match required?	Yes
State Head Start spending	\$0
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,436
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$5,832

* 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

