

# Hawaii

## NO PROGRAM

**H**awaii does not have a state-funded preschool initiative meeting the criteria set forth in this report. However, the state does offer funding for initiatives that provide some support for early childhood education.

Since the early 1980s, the Preschool Open Doors Project has provided low-income parents with subsidy payments allowing them to purchase preschool for their 4-year-olds and, on a case-by-case basis, 3-year-olds with special needs. Parents select their own program, but the subsidy is delivered directly to the chosen provider. Children are eligible for the program if their family income is below 85 percent of the state median income, with family income reassessed every 6 months. Because the Preschool Open Doors Project does not necessarily offer continuous enrollment to children once they initially qualify, this initiative is best viewed as a type of support for working families rather than as a dedicated preschool education program.

In 2002, Hawaii established the Pre-Plus Program, which supports construction of prekindergarten facilities at public school sites but does not directly fund educational services for children. Seventeen Pre-Plus facilities have been constructed but there currently are no additional funds available for further construction.

During the 2006-2007 school year, the state established a third initiative, Junior Kindergarten. This program offers educational services for children who are age eligible for kindergarten but turn 5 later than July 31, making them younger than most children in the regular kindergarten program. Children may also be enrolled in Junior Kindergarten if the results of school assessments show that they are not developmentally ready for kindergarten despite being age eligible. Depending on the child's readiness and individual program practices, children may attend kindergarten or first grade after completing a year of Junior Kindergarten.

Additionally, in July of 2008 a bill was passed to establish an early learning system known as Keiki First Steps, which is designed to offer a spectrum of early learning opportunities for children throughout the state from birth until kindergarten entry. This legislation created an Early Learning Council that will develop and administer the early learning system, establish the Keiki First Steps grant program, and promote the development of additional early learning facilities.

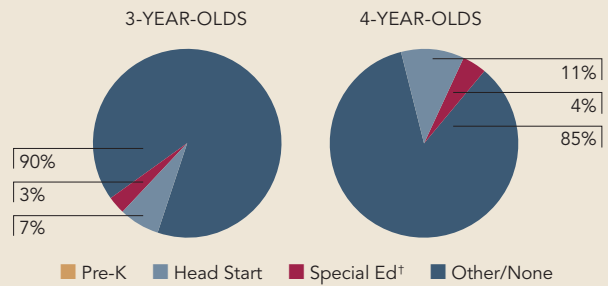
ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
No Program	

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment .....	0
School districts that offer state program.....	NA
Income requirement .....	NA
Hours of operation .....	NA
Operating schedule .....	NA
Special education enrollment .....	1,543
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	2,667
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	0

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



† This number represents children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start.

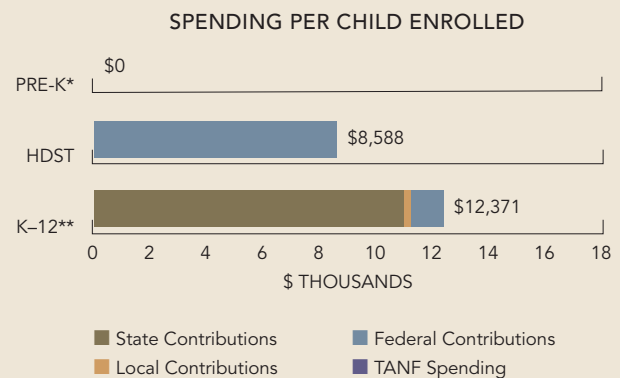
## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

No Program

## 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.

\*\*K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '07-'08 school year, unless otherwise noted.