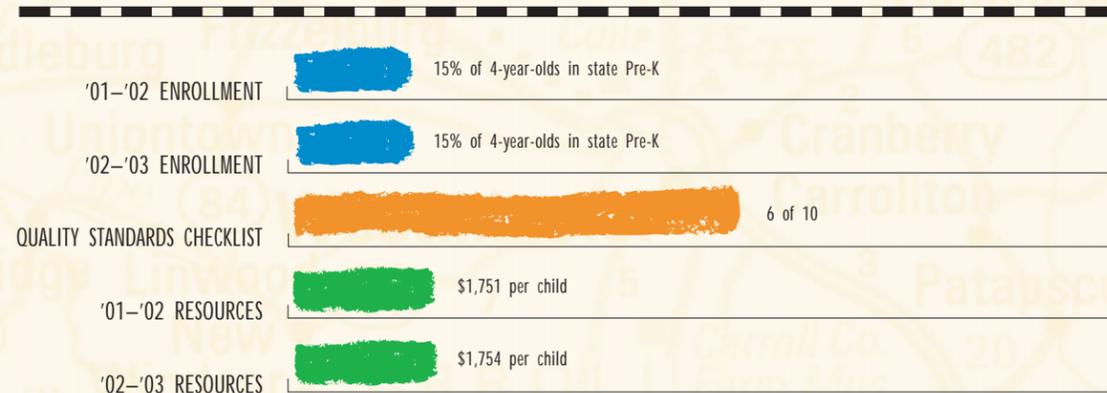


Maryland



The Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP) began in 1979 as a pilot program to help at-risk children in Baltimore City and Prince George's County; now it exists statewide. Local school systems determine eligibility, but the state designates the following groups of 4-year-olds as automatically eligible: children who have limited English proficiency, are homeless, were enrolled in Head Start or Even Start, or have special health care needs. The state Legislature allocates EEEP funds to public schools. Additional enrollees are supported through other funding streams, including Title I and local matching funds. Public schools administer the program, and only rarely subcontract with Head Start or child care centers. In these instances, the standards for EEEP remain the same, regardless of the location of the program.

The number of state-supported 4-year-olds in EEEP was 10,980 in 2002–2003, while funding for the program was \$19,262,500.

In 2002, the state Legislature passed the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act, which will require all local school systems to provide prekindergarten services to all eligible 4-year-olds from disadvantaged families or who are homeless. If preschool slots remain after all eligible children are enrolled, school systems may set priorities to fill these slots. As a first step in implementing the new regulations, eligibility criteria for EEEP have been adapted to focus more on children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds beginning with the 2003–2004 program year. All requirements of the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act must be implemented by 2007–2008.

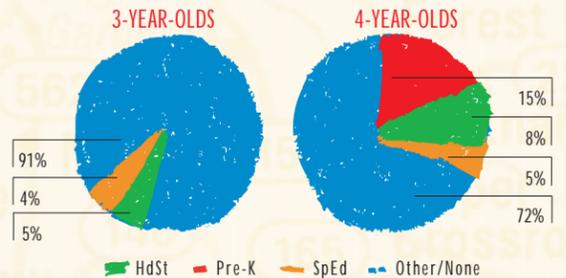
Maryland also provides a state supplement for the federal Head Start program. In fiscal year 2002, \$3,000,000 in Head Start enhancement funds were used primarily for extended-year classes, extended-day services and/or quality improvement.



ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	11,000 ¹
School districts that offer state program	100%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Half-day, full-week
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	6,171
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	9,208
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

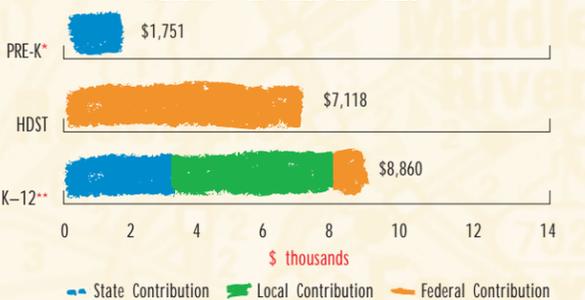
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training requirement	Degree in EC + certification in N-3, -6, or -8	Specializing in EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	HSD or equivalent	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	Varies ²	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 requirements	Determined locally	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	None	At least 1 service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	None	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$19,262,500 ¹
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$1,751 ³
State Head Start spending	\$3,000,000
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$264

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

² K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

³ State money funds approximately 11,000 of the 20,569 Pre-K students. Placements for the remaining students in the program are funded by Title I, local (general aid) funds, and public school Head Start.

² Some in-service requirements may be imposed locally. There are recertification requirements for teachers every 5 years. In addition, all schools involved in EEEP have adopted the Maryland Model for School Readiness, which entails 5 days of training in teachers' first year, 4 days of training in their second, and 2-day institutes in their chosen focus area in subsequent years. The in-service standard for the program will change for 2003–2004.

³ This calculation is based on an estimated state-funded EEEP enrollment of 11,000.