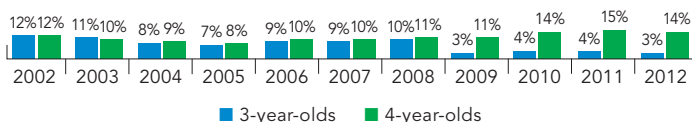


Massachusetts

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



The Massachusetts Department Early Education and Care (ECC), established in 2005, seeks to improve affordability, quality, and access of preschool education services. Concurrently, the state launched the Universal Pre-kindergarten (UPK) initiative. Eligibility for UPK includes children from age 2 years and 9 months until they reach the locally determined kindergarten eligibility age.

Public schools, private child care centers, family child care, Head Start programs, and faith-based centers are eligible for UPK grants. The programs are required to operate or provide access to full-day, full-year services. In the 2011-2012 school year, grants were available only to previous grantees, and the program was offered in 91 towns. Children are able to participate in UPK programs regardless of income. However, programs must be willing to serve children from families with income levels at or below 85 percent of the state's median income (SMI). During the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years, UPK was evaluated for process quality.

Since 1985, Grant 391 has funded typically developing preschool children to match the number of students with disabilities served in inclusion classrooms. Eligibility includes any child without disabilities and the services are offered in public schools in 76 districts.

Massachusetts has been phasing programs into its Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS). Beginning in the 2010-2011 program year, all UPK grantees were required to participate, and all Head Start sites must participate by the end of 2014. In the 2012-2013 school year, QRIS participation will also be required of any other programs that work with EEC beyond licensing. As part of its developing early education data system, UPK grantees participate and use a portion of their UPK funds to support progress on the QRIS; allow EEC staff to conduct on-site ECERS/FCCERS observations; publish staff information in EEC's Professional Qualifications Registry; and provide child-level data, with parent consent, using a State Assigned Student Identification. As part of its Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge grant, Massachusetts will conduct a study to validate this QRIS. In the 2012-2013 year, EEC sought to further align the UPK program with the QRIS, mandating that programs must meet a Level 3 in the QRIS to be eligible for renewal, and must also demonstrate that they served "high needs children" as demonstrated through formative assessments and/or screenings.

In the 2010-2011 school year, Massachusetts operated two additional programs using ARRA funds. The Kindergarten Entry Enrichment Program (KEEP) provided five to 12 weeks of programming for 4- and 5-year-olds in the summer immediately before kindergarten entry in public schools and EEC income-eligible contracted providers. A similar program, the Preschool Child Care Enrichment Program (PSCEE) Quality Add-On Initiative funded preschools services for educationally at risk children from the ECC's waiting list. These programs ended when ARRA funds expired.

Massachusetts also supplements the federal Head Start program, providing \$7.5 million to include an additional 254 slots for eligible children as well as expanding access to before- and after-care services. The state supplemental funding also provides for other quality improvements, including professional development opportunities for staff.

This profile focuses on UPK and Grant 391, which are reported together because both programs have similar requirements and standards.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
27	16

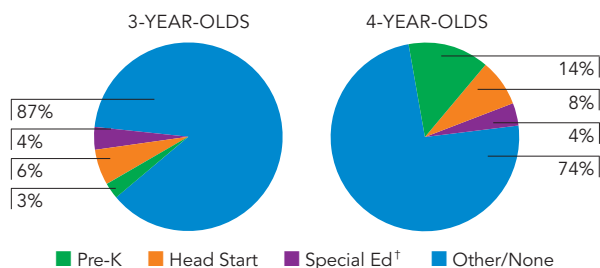
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
17	24

MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN (UPK) AND GRANT 391

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	13,266
School districts that offer	26% (towns, UPK); state program 25% (school districts, Grant 391)
Income requirement	85% SMI (UPK); None (Grant 391) ¹
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	9,916
Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4	10,404
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	228 ³

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (public); None (nonpublic) ⁴	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training.....	EC teachers of students with and without disabilities, Pre-K-2 (public); 3 credits (nonpublic) ⁴	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD (public); None (nonpublic) ⁵	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	20 clock hours (UPK); 150 hours/5 years (Grant 391)	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	20		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:10 (UPK); 1:7 to 1: 10 (Grant 391)		
4-year-olds	1:10 (UPK); 1:7 to 1: 10 (Grant 391) ⁶		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health; and support services ⁷	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depend on length of program day ⁸	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring ⁹	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

RESOURCES

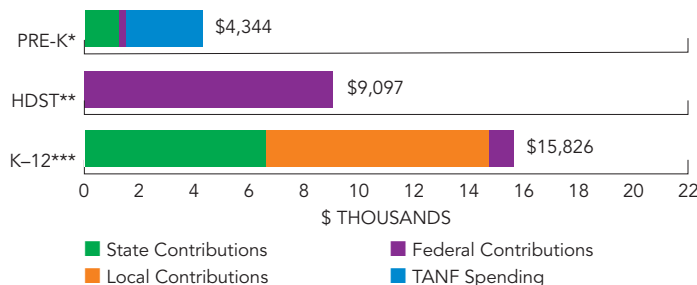
Total state pre-K spending	\$53,839,631 ¹⁰
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$7,500,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,058
All reported spending per child enrolled*.....	\$4,344

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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ In the UPK programs, any child may enroll, yet programs are selected to receive UPK funding based on program and child characteristics. The income requirement is for children receiving subsidy money.

² Hours vary by type of program and setting and are determined locally. UPK grantees are required to offer or provide access to full-day and full-year services. For UPK, full day is 10 or more hours, school day is 5 to 10 hours, and half-day is fewer than 5 hours. For Grant 391, grantees follow the public school calendar which is determined locally.

³ Massachusetts was not able to break its state-funded Head Start enrollment down by single year of age. As a result, this figure is an estimate based on the percentage of federal Head Start enrollees in Massachusetts who were 3 or 4 years old.

⁴ All teachers must have an Early Childhood Certification. Public school teachers must have a pre-K to grade 2 certification. Nonpublic school teachers must be certified by the Department of Early Education and Care. Teachers must either be 21 years old or have a high school diploma, and must complete a 3-credit college course in child growth and development.

⁵ Assistant teachers in nonpublic settings must complete a 3-credit child development course and be at least 18 years old. A CDA may be substituted for these requirements.

⁶ For 391 grants, the ratio can range from 1:7 to 1:10 based upon the number of children with disabilities enrolled in the session.

⁷ Programs are not required to provide these services directly. However, all LEAs are required to provide screenings and referrals under "child find" and screenings and referrals are available to all children in non LEAs through services in the public schools. Required support services include parent conferences or home visits. Additional support services are determined locally.

⁸ Programs operating fewer than 4 hours per day must provide snacks, and programs operating between 4 and 9 hours must provide a regularly scheduled meal in addition to a snack. Programs operating more than 9 hours must provide two meals and two snacks.

⁹ UPK conducts site visits approximately once a year and all sites are visited. Grant 391 programs are all visited within a six-year cycle.

¹⁰ Total spending by program was: \$12,812,552 for Grant 391 and \$53,839,631 for UPK.