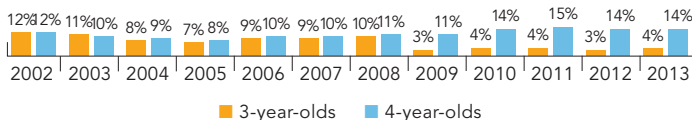
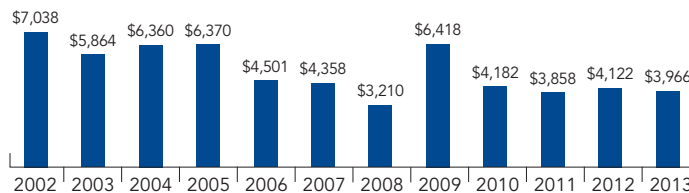


Massachusetts

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2013 DOLLARS)



Established in 2005, the Massachusetts Department Early Education and Care (EEC) strives to improve quality, affordability, and access to preschool education services. Also that year, the state started its Universal Pre-kindergarten (UPK) initiative, which serves children from age 2 years, 9 months, until they arrive at the locally determined kindergarten eligibility age.

Public schools, private child care centers, Head Start programs, family child care, and faith-based centers are eligible for UPK grants and must offer full-day, full-year services. UPK is a competitive grant program, though recent years have only been offered as renewal grants, due to funding constraints; in the 2012-2013 school year, funds were awarded as renewal grants, though there was also a competitive round. The program was offered in 94 towns. While an individual child's eligibility is not based on income level, 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 assessed for process quality.

Massachusetts also provides early childhood education services through the Grant 391 program. Since 1985, this program has funded typically developing preschool children to enroll alongside students with disabilities served in inclusion classrooms. There is no income qualification for enrollment in this program, which was offered in 79 districts and 17 private/nonprofit agencies in the 2012-2013 school year.

Massachusetts has been gradually phasing programs into its Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS). All UPK grantees were required to participate beginning in the 2010-2011 program year, and all Head Start sites must participate by the end of 2014. All programs that work with EEC beyond licensing were added to the QRIS by the 2012-2013 school year. UPK grantees not only participate in the QRIS, but also allow EEC staff to carry out on-site ECERS/FCCERS observations; provide child-level data, with parent permission, using a State Assigned Student Identification or program-specific child ID number; and collect staff information for EEC's Professional Qualifications Registry. As part of its Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge award, Massachusetts is performing a study to validate this QRIS. As of the 2012-2013 year, UPK programs must achieve at least a Level 3 on the QRIS to be qualified for renewal, and must also show that they served "high needs children" as demonstrated through formative assessments and/or screenings.

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

Massachusetts also supplements the federal Head Start program, providing \$8 million for an additional 237 slots for eligible children, as well as funding for before- and after-care services. The state supplemental funding is also used for quality-improvement purposes within Head Start, 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
28	17

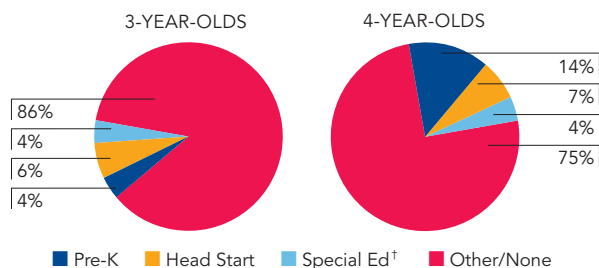
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
20	25

MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN (UPK) AND GRANT 391

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	13,335
School districts that offer state program	27% (towns)
Income requirement	85% SMI (UPK); None (Grant 391) ¹
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	9,906
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	9,065
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	214

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 (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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	20		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio		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 and support services	Vision, hearing, developmental; and support services ⁷	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Depends 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

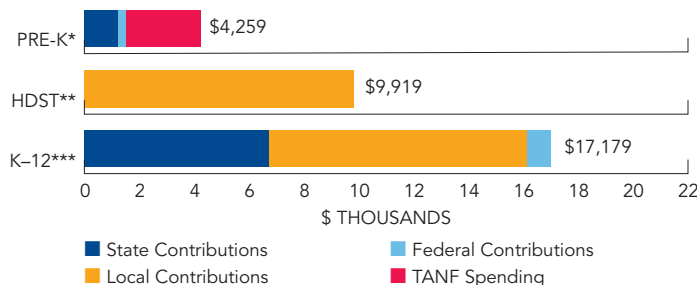
Total state pre-K spending	\$52,887,295 ¹⁰
Local match required?	Yes
State Head Start spending	\$8,000,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,966
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,259

* 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 2012-2013 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years figured have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '12-'13 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 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: \$12,919,215 for Grant 391 and \$43,868,019 for UPK.