

Mississippi

NO PROGRAM

Although Mississippi does not have a state-funded pre-K program, the state has offered Mississippi Building Blocks (MBB) since 2008. MBB is a high-profile initiative sponsored by several Mississippi foundations and business leaders. The vision of Mississippi Building Blocks is to provide statewide leadership in promoting excellence in early childhood programs, from birth to kindergarten entry, to support children in their readiness for school. The initiative provides high-quality learning experiences for children and families through coaching, training, and technical assistance for early childhood professionals.

The Mississippi Child Care Quality Step System (MCCQSS) received \$3 million from the state in fiscal year 2009 to increase funding for resource and referral (R&R) and expand the system. Since 2010, a commission of education experts and business leaders has studied the MBB program with an eye towards establishing a statewide model. After conducting a three-year study, they issued several recommendations, including revising the child care licensing and Quality Rating System standard; improving instructional proficiency of preschool teachers; and implementing a system of quality care for young children.

In 2013, Mississippi signed into law a small-scale pre-K program as part of a series of education reforms. The program seeks to provide high quality pre-K through a collaborative delivery model starting no later than the 2014-2015 school year.

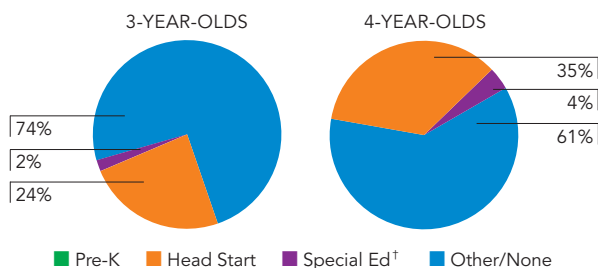
| ACCESS RANKINGS | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| No Program | |

| 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 | 5,274 |
| Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 | 25,765 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment..... | 0 |

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 Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Early learning standards | NA | Comprehensive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | NA | BA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | NA | Specializing in pre-K | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | NA | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher in-service | NA | At least 15 hours/year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | | 20 or lower | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | NA | | |
| Staff-child ratio | | 1:10 or better | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | NA | | |
| Screening/referral | NA | Vision, hearing, health; and | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| and support services | | at least 1 support service | |
| Meals | NA | At least 1/day | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring | NA | Site visits | <input type="checkbox"/> |

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
No Program

RESOURCES

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$0 |
| Local match required? | NA |
| 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.

** 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

