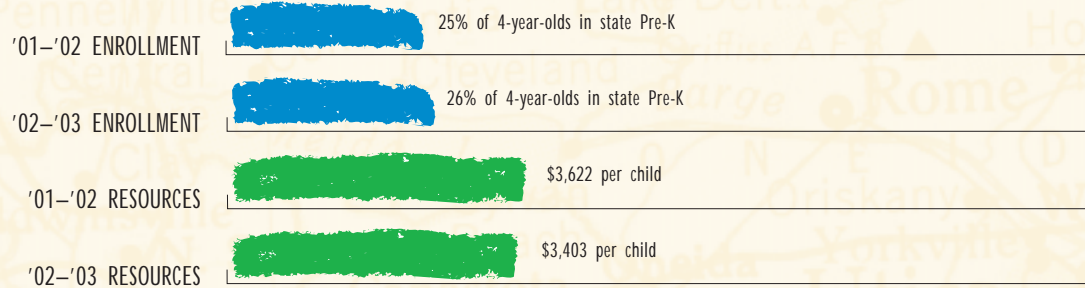


New York



The birth of Head Start inspired the New York State Legislature to create and fund a similar half-day program in 1966. Experimental Prekindergarten (EPK) shares Head Start's emphasis on comprehensive services, and offers such components as social services, nutrition, and parent involvement. The highest priority for enrollment goes to 4-year-olds whose families live in one of the 98 districts selected by the Legislature when the program first began, and who receive TANF, food stamps, or participate in one of several other federal programs that support low-income families. All EPK classrooms are operated by public schools. State funding for EPK reached a high of \$54 million in fiscal year 1995, then remained flat at \$50.2 million from 1997–2002. The state cut funding further in fiscal year 2003, contributing \$48 million to serve the 13,519 children enrolled in EPK.

In 1997, the state Legislature voted to make access to 4-year-old prekindergarten universal in five years, resulting in the establishment of a second state-funded prekindergarten initiative in New York. Six years later, available funds for the state's Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) program serve less than one-quarter of the state's 4-year-olds, and most of them come from low-income families. From 1999–2002, school districts were required to serve economically disadvantaged children first and the program was to be phased in by the end of that period. Funds for UPK flow through public schools, but at least 10 percent of these funds must go to subcontracts with community-based agencies. In practice, more than 60 percent of funds go to community-based organizations.

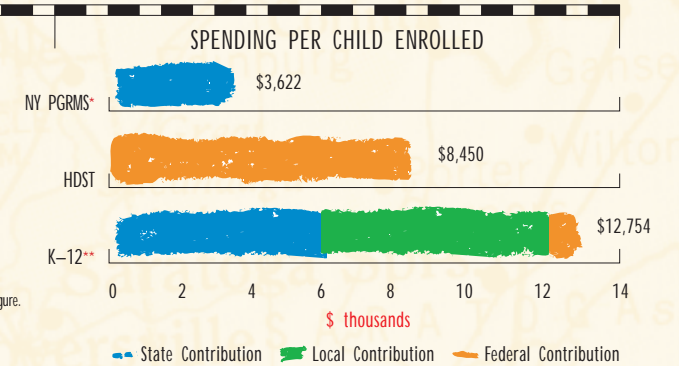
The 1997 legislation also required all UPK classrooms to have certified teachers by 2002, but that deadline has been extended. Currently, UPK classrooms in public schools throughout the state—as well as those in Head Start or child care centers in New York City—require a certified teacher. UPK teachers in child care centers or community-based organizations outside New York City can teach once they have at least 9 credits toward a CDA, but must be supervised by a certified teacher.

State funding for the UPK program was reduced to \$195,400,000 for the 2002–2003 program year, during which an estimated 58,000 children were enrolled.

Although most states have a single state-financed prekindergarten initiative, New York makes significant contributions to prekindergarten through these two separate initiatives—EPK and UPK. As a result, we present summary information about the state's overall commitment to prekindergarten by taking enrollment and state spending for both initiatives into account. Next, we present specific details about each initiative in the state. These first two pages of this profile reflect New York's commitment to prekindergarten through both the UPK and EPK programs combined. The next page focuses exclusively on the UPK program, while the final page focuses exclusively on the EPK program.

STATE OVERVIEW

Total state program enrollment	69,334
Total state spending	\$251,100,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,622
State spending per 3-year-old	\$78
State spending per 4-year-old	\$896



* 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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

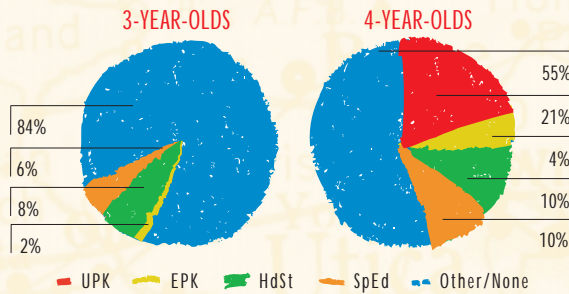


NEW YORK UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	54,150
School districts that offer state program	24%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	41,534
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	43,871
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



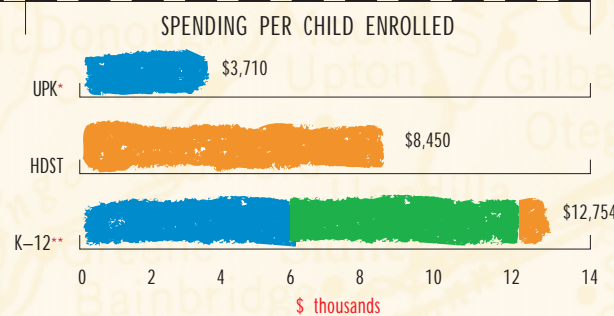
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA prior to 1978, MA after (public), None (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training req.	None beyond BA or MA (public), 9 credits toward CDA (nonpublic)	Specializing in EC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	HSD + 6 credit hours (public), HSD (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	175 clock hours/5 years ³	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	1:9 or 3:20		
Screening/referral requirements	Health only	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	Family support services and at least 1 parent conference ⁴	At least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	Varies	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$200,900,000
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,710
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$777



^{*} 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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

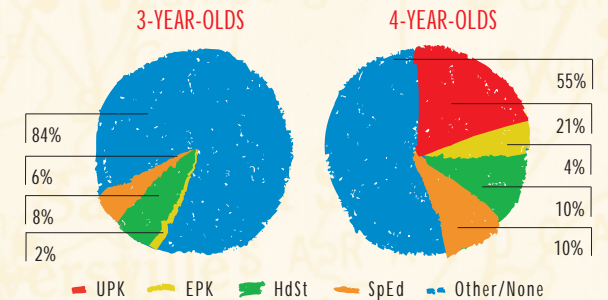
- Children from economically disadvantaged households were given enrollment priority beginning in the second year of program delivery, under the assumption that the program would be universal in the fourth year after inception.
- Programs may be full- or half-day, but 85% of enrollees attend a half-day program.
- Pre-K teachers must comply with the same requirements as teachers at other grade levels, and this requirement applies to all professional certificate holders.
- Families of UPK participants are offered services including transition into UPK, language support for English Language Learners, and referral/support for children identified with disabilities.

NEW YORK EXPERIMENTAL PREKINDERGARTEN

ACCESS

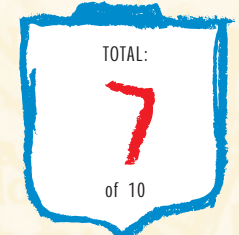
Total state program enrollment	15,184
School districts that offer state program	12%
Income requirement	Economically disadvantaged, defined as receiving financial assistance of some type
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	41,534
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	43,871
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



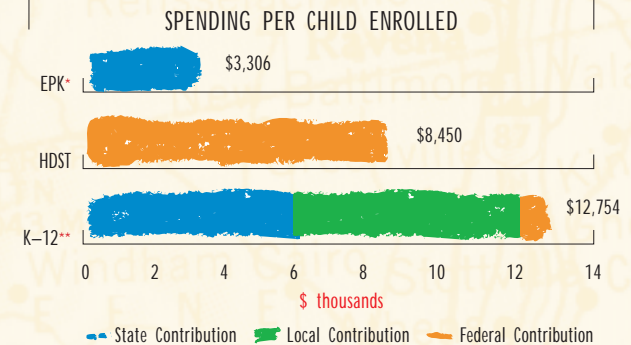
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA prior to 1978, MA after	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training requirement	Certification in N-6 ²	Specializing in EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	HSD + 6 credit hours	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	175 clock hours/5 years ³	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	1:9 or 3:20		
4-year-olds	1:9 or 3:20		
Screening/referral requirements	None	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	Family support services ⁴	At least 1 service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	Breakfast or lunch	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$50,200,000
Local match required?	Yes—11% minimum local contribution
State spending per child enrolled	\$3,306
State spending per 3-year-old	\$78
State spending per 4-year-old	\$120



^{*} 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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- Programs may be full- or half-day, and operate 4 or 5 days per week.
- Currently, teachers must be certified in Nursery-Grade 6, but the requirement will change to Birth-Grade 2 on February 1, 2004.
- Pre-K teachers must comply with the same requirements as teachers at other grade levels, and this requirement applies to all professional certificate holders.
- EPK programs offer diverse family services that address social services, health services, nutrition, parent involvement, continuity of programs from kindergarten to third grade, and coordination with community agencies.