# Virginia

'01–'02 ENROLLMENT — 6% of 4-year-olds in state Pre-K

'02–'03 ENROLLMENT — 6% of 4-year-olds in state Pre-K

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST — 5 of 10

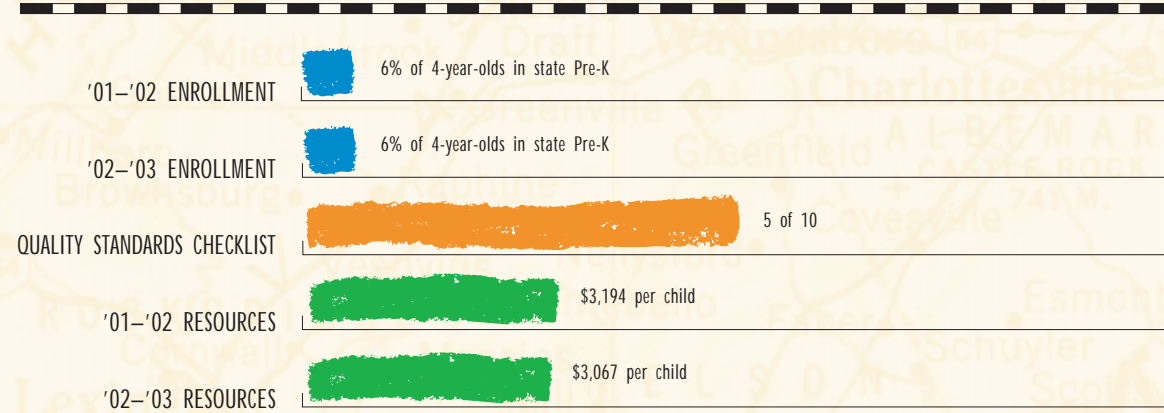'01–'02 RESOURCES — $3,194 per child

'02–'03 RESOURCES — $3,067 per child

The Virginia Preschool Initiative was established in 1995 to serve disadvantaged 4-year-olds who are not able to participate in other prekindergarten programs. State funds are allocated to localities to enable them to serve 60 percent of their at-risk 4-year-olds who are not being served by federal programs such as Head Start or Title I. Funding is calculated at $5,400 per eligible child, with the cost to be shared by the state and local governments based on an index that indicates a locality's ability to contribute. While the prekindergarten program is targeted to children at risk, each locality determines which specific risk factors children must have to qualify. Schools, Head Start programs, and private agencies can receive funds to operate prekindergarten programs.

The Virginia Preschool Initiative served 5,886 4-year-olds in 2002–2003 and received $18,051,702 in state funding.

| ACCESS RANKING–4s | ACCESS RANKING–3s | RESOURCES RANKING |
|---|---|---|
| 23 | 50 | 15 |

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 5,878
School districts that offer state program - - - - - - - - 75 total
Income requirement - - - - - - - - - - - - - Determined locally [1]
Hours of operation - - - - - - - - - - - - - Full-day, full-week
Operating schedule - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Academic year
Special education enrollment - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 8,394
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment - - - - - - - - - 11,616
State-funded Head Start enrollment - - - - - - - - - - - - 0

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

**3-YEAR-OLDS**
92%
3%
5%

**4-YEAR-OLDS**
6%
8%
6%
80%

HdSt   Pre-K   SpEd   Other/None
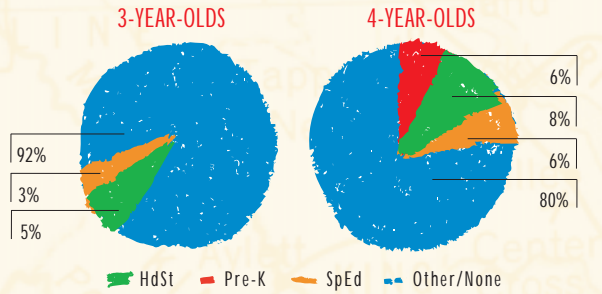
## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? |
|---|---|---|---|
| Curriculum standards | Not comprehensive | Comprehensive | ☐ |
| Teacher degree requirement | BA (public), None (nonpublic) [2] | BA | ☐ |
| Teacher specialized training requirement | Certification in Pre-K–3 or –6 (public), None (nonpublic) [2] | Specializing in EC | ☐ |
| Assistant teacher degree requirement | HSD or GED | CDA or equivalent | ☐ |
| Teacher in-service requirement | Determined locally | At least 15 hours/year | ☐ |
| Maximum class size | | 20 or lower | ☑ |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | 16 | | |
| Staff-child ratio | | 1:10 or better | ☑ |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | 1:8 | | |
| Screening/referral requirements | Vision, hearing, and health | Vision, hearing, and health | ☑ |
| Family support service requirements | Family support services [3] | At least 1 service | ☑ |
| Meal requirements | Lunch and snack | At least 1/day | ☑ |

TOTAL:
**5**
of 10

## RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending - - - - - - - - - - - - - $18,771,840
Local match required? - - - - - - - Yes—based on composite index of local ability to pay
State spending per child enrolled - - - - - - - - - - - $3,194
State spending per 3-year-old - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $0
State spending per 4-year-old - - - - - - - - - - - - - $201

### SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

PRE-K* — $3,194
HDST — $6,925
K–12** — $7,339

0  2  4  6  8  10  12  14
$ thousands

State Contribution   Local Contribution   Federal Contribution
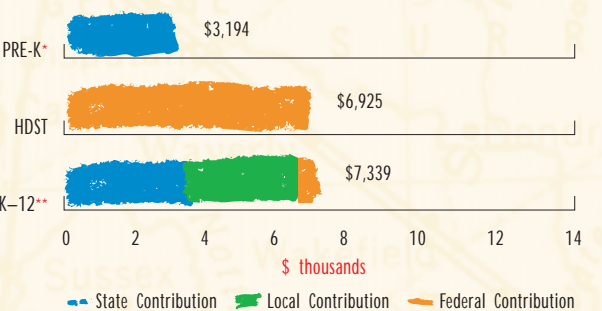
\* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
\*\* K–12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

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

[1] Eligibility criteria, payment policies and comprehensive services are all specified at the local level. Districts also determine their own teacher in-service requirements.
[2] All program staff must have some training in early childhood development. Minimum teacher qualifications depend on the location of the program: public school teachers must be certified, Head Start teachers must hold a CDA, and there is no specific degree requirement for teachers in child care settings.
[3] Families receive health, social and transportation services. Comprehensive services are specified at the local level.