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December 1, 2023

UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN-PROGRAMMING, FUNDING, AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This memorandum provides information on other states' pre-kindergarten policies on operating schedules, eligibility criteria, and enrollment caps. The memorandum was completed using the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University's 2022 State of Preschool Yearbook. The report is an annual survey of state preschool policies, focusing on the 2021-2022 school year.

Pre-kindergarten and State-Funded Programs

Pre-kindergarten (pre-K) programs are known by many different names, such as "public preschool," "pre-k," "junior-kindergarten," "state-funded preschool," or "prekindergarten"[1] and often refers to the educational programs that occur one to two years before kindergarten. In 2021-2022, there were 62 state-funded pre-K programs within 44 states and the District of Columbia. Six states do not have a program:[2,3]

- Idaho;
- Indiana;
- Montana;
- New Hampshire;
- South Dakota; and
- Wyoming.

The minimum age for pre-k varies by state agency; minimum age requirements are provided in **Appendix C**. There are 3 state-funded programs (4.8 percent) with an minimum age of 2 years, 29 programs (46.8 percent) with a minimum age of 3 years, 22 programs (35.5

1 ChildCare.gov. (n.d.). PreKindergarten Programs. Retrieved from ChildCare.gov: https://childcare.gov/consumer-education/prekindergarten-programs; accessed November 2023

2 **Appendix A** provides NIEER criteria for state-funded preschool programs.

3 **Appendix B** provides the full names of state-funded preschool programs.

percent) with a minimum age of 4 years, 1 program (1.6 percent) with a minimum age of 5 years, 5 programs (8.1 percent) where the minimum age is determined locally, and 2 (3.2 percent) programs with no minimum age requirement. KAR 28-4-420 sets the minimum age for preschool attendance in Kansas at 30 months .

Universal Pre-k

NIEER identified Florida, Iowa, Oklahoma, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia as having mostly achieved universal pre-kindergarten (UPK). In the study, the criteria used to determine a state's UPK status include the following:

- **UPK (mostly achieved):** States that have reached approximately 70.0 percent of 4-year-olds, through either a state program or Head Start. In 2022, these states were all above 60 percent but still lower than typical due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These states all have policies as well for universal programs;[4]

- **UPK in progress for some time:** States that have had UPK programs for some time but have not reached 70.0 percent coverage;[5]

- **UPK in progress for some time/current governor-endorsed UPK:** Only Illinois falls into this category. The state has had "Preschool for All" for years but it has never been funded to be able to serve all children;[6]

- **Newly working towards UPK:** States that have announced plans for or a commitment to working towards UPK within the past two years;

- **State pre-k without specific commitment to UPK:** States with some state-funded pre-k but no explicit goal or policy regarding working towards UPK;[7] and

- **No state-funded preschool:** States that do not offer any state-funded pre-k that meets NIEER' s definition.

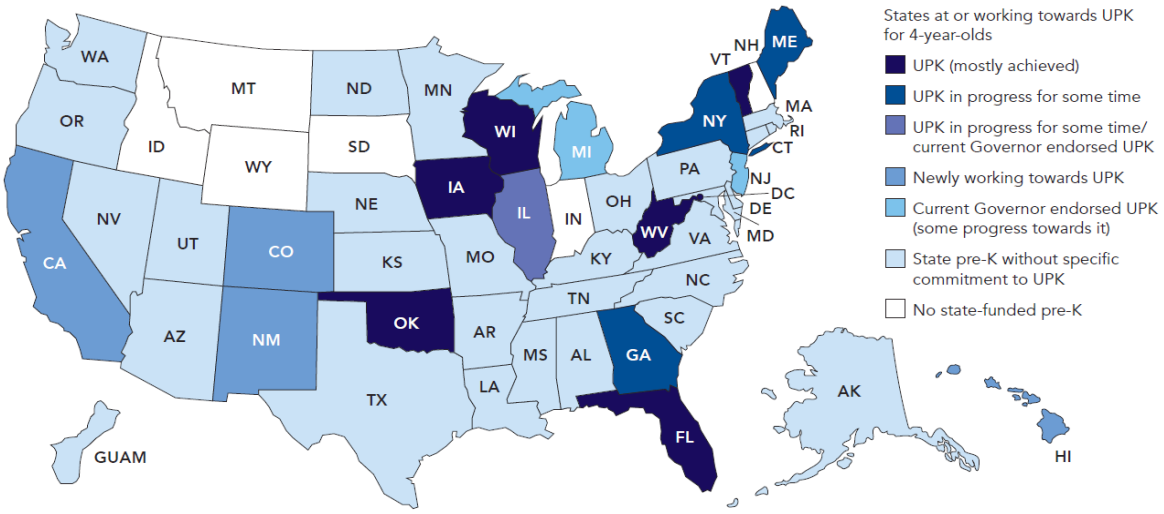
4 Some states, such as Vermont, and the District of Columbia provide universal preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds, while the rest primarily focus on 4-year-olds.

5 According to NIEER, the primary reason for UPK programs remain "in progress for some time" is do to funding limitations.

6 In February 2023, Governor J.B. Pritzker announced support to work towards a funded UPK program.

7 NIEER grouped Kansas in the "state pre-K without specific commitment to UPK."

States' Progress Towards Universal Preschool



Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Figure 5: States' Progress Towards Universal Preschool

Pre-K Enrollment of 4-Year-Olds

In 2021-2022, the national enrollment for 4-year-olds in pre-K was 32.0 percent. Sixteen states and the District of Columbia were above the national average. Kansas had an enrollment level for this age group of 42.0 percent, or about 15,878 children.

Top 10 Highest and Lowest Rates of 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in Pre-K for 2021-2022 by State*

States with Highest Percentage of 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in Preschool 2021-2022			States with the Lowest Percentage of 4-Year Olds Enrolled in Preschool 2021-2022		
State	**Number of Children Enrolled**	**Percentage of Children Enrolled**	**State**	**Number of Children Enrolled**	**Percentage of Children Enrolled**
D.C.	6,716	83%	Arizona	2,521	3%
Florida	157,451	68%	Hawaii	480	3%
Oklahoma	33,731	65%	North Dakota	371	3%
Vermont	3,917	65%	Utah	1,942	4%
Iowa	25,329	64%	Alaska	497	5%
West Virginia	11,707	63%	Delaware	577	5%
Wisconsin	41,218	61%	Missouri	4,431	6%
Georgia	73,177	55%	Nevada	2,385	6%
New York	116,144	52%	Mississippi	2,807	8%

Texas	188,276	47%	Ohio	14,44	10%

* Not including states with no state-funded program
Red Font: States where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Table 2: State Preschool Access By State

Pre-Kindergarten Funding

Pre-kindergarten education typically utilizes federal, state, and local funding sources for preschool. Twenty-eight states reported using non-state funds for pre-K spending. In 2021-2022, the national average for federal spending per child was $245. Nebraska received the greatest federal contribution per child, $5,051.

Thirteen state-funded programs require local matching for pre-kindergarten funding. Local funding sources include school districts, municipalities, counties, and philanthropic support.

Non-state Pre-K Funding in 2021-2022

State reported non-state funds	Count	States
Yes	28	Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa*, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas+, Utah, Vermont++, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
No	17	Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, **Kansas**¶), Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania

*1,313 children with instructional IEPs were served in Iowa's Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP) but were funded by sources not reported by the state. Similar to prior years, these children were removed from the per-child spending calculations.
+Texas could not separate local and federal spending. The "local" column includes federal and local spending for Texas. Texas includes 18,711 Non-ADA eligible children in their enrollment total. These children are removed from state funding per child calculations.
++ Vermont could not separate state, local, and federal spending. These were estimated based on K–12 spending percentages.
¶) NIEER' s 2022 Year included both the Kansas Preschool At-Risk Program and the Pilot (KPP) together.
Red Font: States where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Table 7: All-Reported Pre-K Resources 2021-2022

State Spending Per Child

State governments commonly use three funding mechanisms to provide funding for pre-k programs: general fund appropriations, block grants, and the state funding formulas.[8] State funding ranges from $2,027 (Massachusetts) per child to $20,442 (the District of Columbia) per

8 Education Commission of the States. (2018, February). *How States Fund Pre-K: A Primer For Policymakers.* Retrieved from https://www.ecs.org/

child. The national average spending level was $6,571. Kansas was ranked 34th, at $4,152. Florida and Wisconsin are among the states with the highest pre-k enrollment percentages but also among the states with the lowest state spending per child.

State Spending Per Child Enrolled in Pre-K in 2021-2022

States with Highest State Spending Per Child Enrolled in Preschool			States with Lowest State Spending Per Child Enrolled in Preschool		
State	**State Funding Per Child (does not include local or federal contributions)**	**Total state preschool spending in 2021-2022**	**State**	**State Funding Per Child (does not include local or federal contributions)**	**Total state preschool spending in 2021-2022**
D.C.	$20,442	$251,973,895	Massachusetts	$2,027	$57,892,749
New Jersey	$16,728	$891,476,664	Utah	$2,206	$6,206,636
Oregon	$13,489	$135,009,596	Florida	$2,254	$354,904,063
Hawaii	$12,590	$6,912,020	Nebraska	$2,313	$30,903,375
California	$12,229	$2,220,877,123	Mississippi	$3,145	$8,829,003
Michigan	$11,927	$428,120,000	Colorado	$3,391	$69,412,304
Connecticut	$11,836	$130,701,882	Iowa*	$3,622	$93,329,515
Washington	$11,081	$200,937,368	Wisconsin	$3,643	$166,662,416
Nevada	$8,910	$21,249,303	South Carolina	$3,844	$97,166,139
New Mexico	$8,270	$103,932,565	Ohio	$4,000	$66,928,000

*1,313 children with instructional individualized education programs (IEPs) were served in Iowa's SWVPP program but were funded by sources not reported by the state.
Red Font: States where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Table 6: State Pre-K Resources 2021-2022

State Funding Source

Of the 62 state-funded programs, 49 have one state source of revenue for funding preschool, eight programs have two sources, and five programs have three sources. Fifty-three programs received state funds through the annual legislative appropriation of state general funds.

Annual State Legislative Appropriation for Pre-K by Funding Source in 2021-2022*

Funding Mechanism	Count	State-Funded Program
Lottery	6	California TK, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, Washington ECEAP
"Sin" tax	1	Arizona
Settlement funds	4	**Kansas**, Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maryland, Ohio
Annual legislative appropriation of state general funds	53	Alaska, Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut SR, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, D.C., Florida+, Hawaii EOEL, Hawaii SPCSP, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas,** Kentucky, Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maine, Massachusetts CPPI, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Minnesota VPK/SRP, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey Expansion, New Jersey ECPA, New Jersey ELLI, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon Pre-K, Oregon Preschool Promise, Pennsylvania RTL, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK, Pennsylvania PKC, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK, West Virginia, Wisconsin
Other	13	Alabama, California TK, Iowa SWVPP, Louisiana 8(g), Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon Pre-K, Oregon Preschool Promise, South Carolina, Texas, Washington ECEAP

*There is no dedicated revenue source for Massachusetts Chapter 70.
+The 2022 Yearbook listed "data not reported" for Florida VPK. Therefore, KLRD contacted Florida Department of Education' s Division of Early Learning. Lisa Matlock Zenoz, the Deputy Director of Finance and Operations, stated that Section 1002.71, Florida Statutes, contains the funding details. The program is funded through an annual legislative appropriation from state general revenue funds.
Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Table 84: State Sources of Revenue Used to Fund Preschool.

All-reported Spending per Child Enrolled in Pre-K

For all-reported spending (federal, state, and local), Florida pre-k students received the least per student at $2,254. The most per student was spent on the District of Columbia pre-k students, at $20,442 per student. Kansas ranked 41 out of 44 states and the District of Columbia for all-reported spending per child, spending below the national average of $7,656.

All-Reported Spending Per Child Enrolled in Pre-K in 2021-2022

States with Highest All-reported Spending Per Child Enrolled in Preschool	States with Lowest All-reported Spending Per Child Enrolled in Preschool

State	All-reported Spending Per Child (including federal, state, and local funding)	Total all-reported preschool spending in 2021-2022	State	All-reported Spending Per Child (including federal, state, and local funding)	Total all-reported preschool spending in 2021-2022
D.C.	$20,442	$251,973,895	Florida	$2,254	$354,904,063
New Jersey	$16,728	$891,476,664	Iowa*	$3,755	$96,758,059
Oregon	$13,489	$135,009,596	Utah	$3,755	$10,562,113
Hawaii	$12,590	$6,912,020	Ohio	$4,000	$66,928,000
California	$12,238	$2,222,530,064	**Kansas**	**$4,152**	**$93,748,414**
Michigan	$11,927	$428,120,000	South Carolina	$4,155	$105,024,597
Washington	$11,922	$216,194,001	Arizona	$4,177	$20,090,440
Maryland	$11,880	$348,285,012	Massachusetts	$4,284	$122,315,549
Connecticut	$11,836	$130,701,882	Texas	$4,971	$1,027,941,168
Nebraska	$11,690	$156,174,441	Missouri	$4,978	$26,084,58

*1,313 children with instructional IEPs were served in Iowa's SWVPP program but were funded by sources not reported by the state. Similar to prior years, these children were removed from the per-child spending calculations.
Red Font: States where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Table 7: All-Reported Pre-K Resources 2021-2022

Operating Schedules

According to Dr. Steven Barnett, the Senior Co-Director of NIEER, states and federal agencies differ in their definitions of the length of day of pre-k programs. NIEER tends to use each state's own designation. Half-day programs could be as few as 2.5 hours per day, and some part-day programs may be as short as 2 hours. If a school had 7-hour days, then a half-day might be 3 hours or more (depending on whether there are double sessions and the need for transition time). Due to the variations in full-day and half-day definition, the memorandum follows Head Start's past operating schedule designation. **Appendix D** provides information on hour and annual operation schedules by program. [***Note:*** The NIEER column heading "Hours per day" likely should be "Hours per year."]

Head Start's Operating Schedule Designation

Program Type	Description
Extended-day	6.5 or more hours per day
School-day	At least 4 hours but fewer than 6.5 hours per day
Part-day	Fewer than 4 hours per day

In 2021-2022, there were 20 state-funded school-day or extended-day programs. Dr. Friedman-Krauss informed KLRD that states' policies on the minimum number of hours per day programs required were the criteria for classifying the programs. **Appendix E** contains the full list of the daily and weekly preschool operating schedules.

Extended-day Programs and School-day Programs

Name of State-funded Preschool Program	Minimum Hours per Day	Operating Schedule
Alabama First Class Pre-K Program	6.5 hours per day	Extended-day
Arkansas Better Chance/Arkansas Better Chance for School Success	7 hours per day	Extended-day
Connecticut Child Day Care Contracts	10 hours per day	Extended-day
Connecticut Smart Start	6 hours per day	School-day
the District of Columbia Universal Pre-K	6.5 hours per day	Extended-day
Georgia's Pre-K Program	6.5 hours per day	Extended-day
Hawaii' s Executive Office on Early Learning Public Prekindergarten Program	aligned with the Department of Education's school-day schedule of 30.5 hours/week	School-day
Hawaii State Public Charter School Early Learning Program	aligned with the Department of Education's school-day schedule of 30.5 hours/week	School-day
Louisiana 8(g) Student Enhancement Block Grant Program	6 hours per day	School-day
Louisiana Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program	6 hours per day	School-day
Louisiana Nonpublic Schools Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)	6 hours per day	School-day
Massachusetts Commonwealth Preschool Partnerships Initiative	6 hours per day	School-day
Mississippi Early Learning Collaborative	4 hours per day	School-day
Nevada Ready! State Pre-K	5 hours/day or 25 hours/week	School-day
New Jersey Preschool Expansion Program (Former Abbott Preschool Program)	6 hours per day	School-day
North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program	6.5 hours per day	Extended-day

Name of State-funded Preschool Program	Minimum Hours per Day	Operating Schedule
Rhode Island State Pre-kindergarten Program	6 hours per day	School-day
Tennessee Voluntary Pre-K (VPK)	5.5 hours of instruction (excluding nap)	School-day
Washington Transitional Kindergarten	Full-day: 1,000 hours/year; 27.75 hours/week	School-day
West Virginia Universal Pre-K	1,500 minutes (25 hours) per week	School-day

Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Table 33. Daily And Weekly Preschool Operating Schedules Using State Funds: Minimum Hours Per Day; Head Start operating schedule classifications

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility requirements for state pre-k programs usually involve a combination of income and additional risk factors. The below table shows the eligibility requirements for state-funded programs and programs where eligibility is determined by the individual child or family characteristic.

KSA 72-5132 defines a preschool-aged at-risk student as "an at-risk student who has attained the age of three years, is under the age of eligibility for attendance at kindergarten, and has been selected by the state board in accordance with guidelines governing the selection of students for participation in head start programs."

Individual Child or Family Characteristic Eligibility Requirements

Criteria	State-Funded Program
All age-eligible children are eligible for preschool	Alabama, California TK, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii SPCSP, Iowa SWVPP, Maine, Massachusetts CPPI, Massachusetts Chapter 70, Minnesota VPK/SRP, New Jersey Expansion, New Jersey ECPA, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania K4+, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin
Eligibility is determined by individual child or family characteristics	Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut SR, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Kentucky, Louisiana 8(g), Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi (some programs)*, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey ELLI, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon Pre-K13, Oregon Preschool Promise, Pennsylvania RTL, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, Pennsylvania SBPK++, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia VPI, Virginia Mixed Delivery, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK

*Mississippi - The eligibility is determined by individual child and family characteristics for some programs.
+Pennsylvania K4 - all children are eligible
++Pennsylvania SBPK - eligibility determined by individual child or family characteristics
Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is "mostly achieved"
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Table 36: Eligibility For State-Funded Preschool (Beyond Age)

Risk Factors

Thirty-seven programs use risk factors besides income to determine preschool eligibility. Homelessness or unstable housing and a child's history of foster care were the most commonly used risk factors.

Risk Factors Used to Determine Pre-Kindergarten Eligibility

Risk Factor	Count	State-Funded Program
No risk factors used (other than income)	15	Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California TK, Connecticut SR, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii SPCSP, Iowa SWVPP, Maine, Massachusetts Chapter 70, Minnesota VPK/SRP, Missouri, New Jersey Expansion, New Jersey ECPA, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania RTL, Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin
Homelessness or unstable housing	31	Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Kentucky, Louisiana 8(g), Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia VPI. Virginia Mixed Delivery, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Child history of foster care	30	Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Kentucky, Louisiana 8(g), Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon Pre-K, Oregon, Preschool Promise, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Child disability or developmental delay	29	Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Kentucky, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia VPI, Virginia Mixed Delivery, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Home language other than English	25	Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK

Risk Factor	Count	State-Funded Program
Teen parent	21	Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
History of abuse, neglect, or family violence	21	Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Nevada, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Low parent education	21	Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas**, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia VPI, Virginia Mixed Delivery, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Parental substance abuse	20	Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii EOEL, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas,** Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Nevada, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Low birth weight or other child health risk	18	Arkansas, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK
Parent on active military duty	17	Arkansas, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, Illinois, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia VPI, Washington TK
Risk that child will not be ready for kindergarten	17	Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, **Kansas,** Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Minnesota HdSt, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon Pre-K, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, South Carolina, Virginia VPI, Washington ECEAP, Washington TK

Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is “mostly achieved”
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Tables 39A and 39B. Risk Factors Besides Income That Can Be Used To Determine Preschool Eligibility

Enrollment Capacity

Similarly, 40 state-funded programs had an enrollment cap in 2021-2022. Due to enrollment caps on program allocations, some states have developed criteria that prioritizes students with certain risk factors or used other selection processes. For example, the Alabama First Class Pre-K Program and the Rhode Island State Pre-Kindergarten Program hold lotteries or randomly select children for enrollment.

Programs With Enrollment Caps by State

Status	Count	State-Funded Program
No Enrollment Cap	22	Alaska, Arizona, California TK, Florida*, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, Iowa SWVPP, **Kansas**, Louisiana 8(g), Maryland, Massachusetts CPPI, Massachusetts Chapter 70, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania RTL, Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK, Texas, Washington TK, Wisconsin
Enrollment Cap	40	Alabama, Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut SR, Connecticut Smart Start, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii EOEL, Hawaii SPCSP, Kentucky, Louisiana LA 4, Louisiana NSECD, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota HdSt, Minnesota VPK/SRP, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey Expansion, New Jersey ECPA, New Jersey ELLI, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon Pre-K, Oregon Preschool Promise, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania PKC, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia VPI, Virginia Mixed Delivery, Washington ECEAP, West Virginia

*The 2022 Yearbook listed “data not reported” for Florida VPK. Therefore, KLRD contacted Florida Department of Education’ s Division of Early Learning. Cari Miller, the Chancellor of Early Learning, stated that there is no cap for the program.
Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is “mostly achieved”
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Table 12. Preschool Enrollment Capacity

APPENDIX A : WHAT QUALIFIES AS A STATE-FUNDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

NIEER's State of Preschool Yearbook series focuses on state-funded preschool education programs meeting the following criteria:

- The program is funded, controlled, and directed by the state.

- The program serves children of preschool age, usually three and/or four years old. Although programs in some states serve broader age ranges, programs that serve only infants and toddlers are excluded. The program must reach at least one percent of the 3- or 4-year-old population in the state to be included.

- Early childhood education is the primary focus of the program. This does not exclude programs that offer parent education but does exclude programs that mainly focus on parent education. Programs that focus on parent work status or programs where child eligibility is tied to work status are also excluded.

- The program offers a group learning experience to children at least two days per week.

- State-funded preschool education programs must be distinct from the state's system for subsidized child care. However, preschool programs may be coordinated and integrated with the subsidy system for child care.

- The program is not primarily designed to serve children with disabilities, but services may be offered to children with disabilities.

State supplements to the federal Head Start program are considered to constitute de facto state preschool programs if they substantially expand the number of children served, and if the state assumes some administrative responsibility for the program. State supplements to fund quality improvements, extended days, or other program enhancements, or to fund expanded enrollment only minimally, are not considered equivalent to a state preschool program.

APPENDIX B: NAMES OF STATE-FUNDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

APPENDIX TABLE 1. NAME OF STATE-FUNDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

STATE	Name of state-funded preschool program
Alabama	Alabama First Class Pre-K Program
Alaska	Alaska Pre-Elementary Programs
Arizona	Quality First Scholarships
Arkansas	Arkansas Better Chance/Arkansas Better Chance for School Success
California CSPP	California State Preschool Program (CSPP)
California TK	California Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Program
Colorado	Colorado Preschool Program
Connecticut CDCC	Connecticut Child Day Care Contracts
Connecticut SR	Connecticut School Readiness
Connecticut Smart Start	Connecticut Smart Start
Delaware	Delaware Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP)
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Universal Pre-K
Florida[1]	Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Program
Georgia	Georgia's Pre-K Program
Hawaii EOEL	Hawaii's Executive Office on Early Learning Public Prekindergarten Program
Hawaii SPCSP	Hawaii State Public Charter School Early Learning Program
Illinois	Illinois Preschool for All and Preschool Expansion
Iowa Shared Visions	Iowa Shared Visions
Iowa SWVPP	Iowa Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program
Kansas	Preschool Offered by Public School Districts
Kentucky	Kentucky Preschool Program
Louisiana 8(g)	Louisiana 8(g) Student Enhancement Block Grant Program
Louisiana LA 4	Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program
Louisiana NSECD	Louisiana Nonpublic Schools Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)
Maine	Maine Public Preschool Program
Maryland	Maryland Prekindergarten Program
Massachusetts CPPI	Commonwealth Preschool Partnerships Initiative
Massachusetts Chapter 70	Massachusetts Chapter 70
Michigan	Michigan Great Start Readiness Program
Minnesota HdSt	Minnesota Head Start
Minnesota VPK/SRP	Minnesota Voluntary Prekindergarten and School Readiness Plus
Mississippi	Mississippi Early Learning Collaborative
Missouri	Missouri Pre-K Foundation Formula
Nebraska	Nebraska Early Childhood Education Program
Nevada	Nevada Ready! State Pre-K
New Jersey Expansion	New Jersey Preschool Expansion Program (Former Abbott Preschool Program)
New Jersey ECPA	New Jersey Former Non-Abbott Early Childhood Program Aid
New Jersey ELLI	New Jersey Former Early Launch to Learning Initiative
New Mexico	New Mexico PreK
New York	New York State Administered Prekindergarten Program
North Carolina	North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program
North Dakota	Best in Class
Ohio	Ohio Early Childhood Education
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Early Childhood Four-Year-Old Program
Oregon Pre-K	Oregon Pre-Kindergarten
Oregon Preschool Promise	Oregon Preschool Promise
Pennsylvania RTL	Pennsylvania Ready to Learn Block Grant
Pennsylvania HSSAP	Pennsylvania Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program
Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK	Pennsylvania Kindergarten for Four-Year-Olds and School-Based Pre-K
Pennsylvania PKC	Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts
Rhode Island	Rhode Island State Pre-kindergarten Program
South Carolina	South Carolina Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP)/South Carolina EIA Child Development Program (EIA 4K)
Tennessee	Tennessee Voluntary Pre-K (VPK)
Texas	Texas Public School Prekindergarten
Utah	Expanded Student Access to High Quality School Readiness Programs (ESA)
Vermont	Vermont Universal Prekindergarten Education (Act 166)
Virginia VPI	Virginia Preschool Initiative
Virginia Mixed Delivery	Virginia Early Childhood Foundation Mixed Delivery
Washington ECEAP	Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)
Washington TK	Transitional Kindergarten
West Virginia	West Virginia Universal Pre-K
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K)
Guam	Guam Department of Education Prekindergarten Program

Footnotes are grouped by state at the end of Appendix A. Unless noted, all data are for the '21-'22 school year, except Florida where most data are for the '19-'20 school year.

APPENDIX C: MINIMUM AGE FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT BY STATE-FUNDED PROGRAM

Minimum Age	Count	State-Funded Programs
2-Years-Old	3	Connecticut CDCC, Connecticut SR, Massachusetts CPPI
3-Years-Old	29	Alaska, Arkansas, California CSPP, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii SPCSP, Illinois, Iowa Shared Visions, **Kansas***, Kentucky, Louisiana NSECD, Massachusetts Chapter 707, Minnesota HdSt, Missouri, New Jersey Expansion, New Jersey ECPA, New Jersey ELLI, New Mexico, New York, Oregon Pre-K12, Oregon Preschool Promise, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont
4-Years-Old	22	Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii EOEL, Iowa SWVPP, Louisiana 8(g), Louisiana LA 4, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota VPK/SRP, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Washington TK, West Virginia, Wisconsin
5-Years-Old	1	California TK
Determined Locally	5	Nebraska, Pennsylvania RTL, Pennsylvania HSSAP, Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK, Pennsylvania PKC
No Minimum Age	2	Arizona, Connecticut Smart Start

*** According to KAR 28-4-420, the minimum age for preschool in Kansas is 30 months.**
Red Font: State-funded programs within states where universal pre-K is “mostly achieved”
Source: NIEER, The State of Preschool Yearbook 2022, Appendix Table 35. Minimum Age For Preschool and Kindergarten Eligibility

APPENDIX D: ANNUAL OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR PRESCHOOL

APPENDIX TABLE 34. ANNUAL OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR PRESCHOOL USING STATE FUNDS

STATE	Hours per day	Annual operating schedule
Alabama[8]	1,170	School year or academic year
Alaska[7]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Arizona[7]	Part-day: 400; Full-day: 1,120	Determined locally
Arkansas[10]	1,246	School year or academic year
California CSPP[14]	Part Day/Part Year: minimum of 175 days/year; Full Day/Full Year: minimum of 246 days/year	Determined locally
California TK[8]	600	School year or academic year
Colorado[9]	Half-day: 360; Full-day: 720	School year or academic year
Connecticut CDCC[13]	Minimum of 1,560 hours/year	Full calendar year
Connecticut SR[11]	Full-day/full-year: 2,500; School-day: 1,080; Part-day: 450	Determined locally
Connecticut Smart Start	1,080	School year or academic year
Delaware[7]	At least 560	Minimum 160 days/year
District of Columbia[12]	1,170	School year or academic year
Florida[2]	School-year programs: 540; Summer programs: 300	Determined locally
Georgia	1,170	School year or academic year
Hawaii EOEL	1,080	School year or academic year
Hawaii SPCSP[11]	1,080	School year or academic year
Illinois	2.5 to 5 hours/day, 5 days/week for approximately 165 days/year	School year or academic year
Iowa Shared Visions	Determined locally	Determined locally
Iowa SWVPP[11]	Approximately 350	Determined locally
Kansas[14]	465	School year or academic year
Kentucky[8]	Unknown	School year or academic year
Louisiana 8(g)	1,062	School year or academic year
Louisiana LA 4	1,062	School year or academic year
Louisiana NSECD	1,050	School year or academic year
Maine[10]	Minimally 350 hours per year	School year or academic year
Maryland	Part-Day: 839.79; Extended-Day: 1,255.34	School year or academic year
Massachusetts CPPI[6]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Massachusetts Chapter 70	Determined locally	Determined locally
Michigan[9]	Part-day: 360; School-day: 780	Determined locally
Minnesota HdSt[10]	Per Federal Head Start Performance Standards	Determined locally
Minnesota VPK/SRP[12, 13]	Minimum of 350 hours required; Funded up to 510 hours.	School year or academic year
Mississippi	Part-time: 540; Full-time: 1,080	School year or academic year
Missouri	522 hours/year (part-day); 1,044 hours/year (school-day)	School year or academic year
Nebraska[6]	450 if receiving a grant or qualified to have State Aid calculated	School year or academic year
Nevada[12]	Determined locally	Determined locally
New Jersey Expansion[9]	1,080	School year or academic year
New Jersey ECPA[9]	450 to 1,080	School year or academic year
New Jersey ELLI[9]	450 to 1,080	School year or academic year
New Mexico	Part-day: 450 hours; Extended-day: 900 hours	Determined locally
New York	Part-day: 450; Full-day: 900	School year or academic year
North Carolina[10]	1,170	School year or academic year
North Dakota[8]	400	Determined locally
Ohio[6]	455	School year or academic year
Oklahoma[10]	1,080 hours or 175 school days	School year or academic year
Oregon Pre-K[11]	Per Head Start Program Performance Standards for the models selected	Determined locally
Oregon Preschool Promise[11]	900	School year or academic year
Pennsylvania RTL	450 to 900	School year or academic year
Pennsylvania HSSAP[6]	448	Determined locally
Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK[3]	450 to 900	School year or academic year
Pennsylvania PKC	At least 180 days	School year or academic year
Rhode Island	1,080	School year or academic year
South Carolina[12]	CERDEP: 1,170 (public), 1,870 (First Steps); EIA 4K: 720	School year or academic year
Tennessee[6]	990	School year or academic year
Texas	540 (3-year-olds); 1,250 (4-year-olds)	School year or academic year
Utah	Determined locally	Determined locally
Vermont	350	School year or academic year
Virginia VPI	990 hours or 180 days	School year or academic year
Virginia Mixed Delivery[8]	990 hours or 180 days	990 hours, operating schedule is determined locally
Washington ECEAP[11]	Part-day 360; School-day 1,000; Working-Day 2,370	School year (part-day and school-day models); Calendar year (working-day model)
Washington TK[7]	1,000 instructional hours/year	School year or academic year
West Virginia	800 hours (48,000 minutes) per year	School year or academic year
Wisconsin[8]	437 hours of direct instruction (or 349.5 hours of direct instruction and 87.5 hours of parent outreach).	Determined locally
Guam	1,080	School year or academic year

Footnotes are grouped by state at the end of Appendix A. Unless noted, all data are for the '21-'22 school year, except Florida where most data are for the '19-'20 school year.

APPENDIX E: DAILY AND WEEKLY PRESCHOOL OPERATING SCHEDULES

APPENDIX TABLE 33. DAILY AND WEEKLY PRESCHOOL OPERATING SCHEDULES USING STATE FUNDS

STATE	Minimum hours per day	Days per week
Alabama[8]	6.5	5 days per week
Alaska[7]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Arizona[7]	34 hours per month	Other
Arkansas[10]	7	5 days per week
California CSPP[13]	3	5 days per week
California TK[8]	3	5 days per week
Colorado[9]	2.5	Determined locally
Connecticut CDCC[12]	10	5 days per week
Connecticut SR[11]	2.5	5 days per week
Connecticut Smart Start[11]	6	5 days per week
Delaware[6]	3.5	5 days per week
District of Columbia	6.5	5 days per week
Florida[2]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Georgia	6.5	5 days per week
Hawaii EOEL[4]	Aligned to the Hawai'i DOE's school-day schedule (30.5 hours per week)	5 days per week
Hawaii SPCSP[11]	Aligned to the Hawai'i DOE's school-day schedule (30.5 hours per week)	5 days per week
Illinois	2.5	5 days per week
Iowa Shared Visions[7]	No minimum requirement	Determined locally
Iowa SWVPP[10]	At least 10 hours per week	Determined locally
Kansas[13]	465 hours per year	Determined locally
Kentucky[7]	2.5	Determined locally
Louisiana 8(g)[5]	6	5 days per week
Louisiana LA 4[7]	6	5 days per week
Louisiana NSECD[5]	6	5 days per week
Maine[10]	2	Determined locally
Maryland[5]	2.5	5 days per week
Massachusetts CPPI	6	5 days per week
Massachusetts Chapter 70[6]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Michigan[9]	3 hours per day for part-day programs	4 days per week
Minnesota HdSt[10]	Per Federal Head Start Performance standards	Determined locally
Minnesota VPK/SRP[12]	350 instructional hours per school year.	Determined locally
Mississippi[6]	4	5 days per week
Missouri	No minimum requirement	Determined locally
Nebraska[6]	12 hours per week	Determined locally
Nevada[11]	5 hours/day or 25 hours/week	Determined locally
New Jersey Expansion[9]	6	5 days per week
New Jersey ECPA[9]	2.5	5 days per week
New Jersey ELLI[9]	2.5	5 days per week
New Mexico[3]	3	5 days per week
New York[6]	2.5	5 days per week
North Carolina	6.5	5 days per week
North Dakota	400 Hours	Determined locally
Ohio[6]	2.5	Determined locally
Oklahoma[10]	2.5	5 days per week
Oregon Pre-K[11]	3.5	Determined locally
Oregon Preschool Promise[11]	Determined locally	Determined locally
Pennsylvania RTL	2.5	5 days per week
Pennsylvania HSSAP[5]	3.5	Determined locally
Pennsylvania K4 & SBPK	2.5	5 days per week
Pennsylvania PKC[7]	2.5	5 days per week
Rhode Island	6	5 days per week
South Carolina[12]	CERDEP: 6.5; EIA 4K: 4	5 days per week
Tennessee	5.5 hours of instruction (excluding nap)	5 days per week
Texas[4]	32,400 minutes/year (part-day, PK3); 75,600 minutes/year (full-day, PK4)	5 days per week
Utah[10]	Determined Locally	Determined locally
Vermont[7]	10 hours per week	Determined locally
Virginia VPI[12]	3	5 days per week
Virginia Mixed Delivery	3	5 days per week
Washington ECEAP[11]	3	Determined locally
Washington TK[7]	Full-day: 1,000 hours/year; 27.75 hours/week	5 days per week
West Virginia[6]	1,500 minutes (25 hours) per week	At least 4 days per week
Wisconsin[7]	2.5	Determined locally
Guam[2]		5 days per week

Footnotes are grouped by state at the end of Appendix A. Unless noted, all data are for the '21-'22 school year, except Florida where most data are for the '19-'20 school year.