

NO PROGRAM

Montana does not currently operate a public preschool program that meets the definitions used in this report. The 2018-2019 program year marked the final year for implementation of the \$6 million STARS Preschool Pilot, which was Montana's first state-funded preschool effort. In his proposed 2019-2020 budget, Governor Bullock included a request for \$30 million to build on the success of the Pilot program, but the Montana State Legislature did not fund the request. As a result, Montana did not have a state-funded preschool program after the 2018-19 school year.

The Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program is Montana's voluntary QRIS, aligning quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals. Licensed preschool programs can participate in the QRIS and earn up to five stars, indicating the level of quality. All private providers participating in STARS Preschool must achieve a level of at least 3 on Montana's QRIS.

In the past, Montana has taken advantage of recent federal grant opportunities to support preschool programs. In 2018-2019, over 1,300 children were provided with new or enhanced preschool slots under the state's federal Preschool Development Grant (PDG). Also, in 2017, Montana received another competitive federal grant through the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program to support literacy skills among disadvantaged children, and earmarked 15% of grant funding for preschool programs.

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

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
No Program	

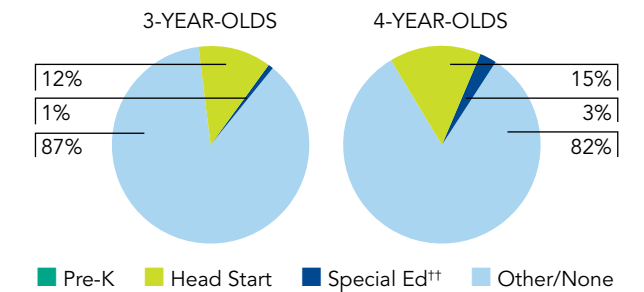
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
No Program

MONTANA

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment	0
School districts that offer state program	NA
Income requirement	NA
Minimum hours of operation	NA
Operating schedule.....	NA
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	947
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	3,454
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



** Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

NO PROGRAM

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$0
Local match required?	NA
State Head Start spending	\$0
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 includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

