

Pre-K

**Deborah Landry
January 28, 2016**

**Joint Legislative Oversight on
Health and Human Services**

**Early Education and Family Support
Programs Subcommittee**

Program Comparison

	Smart Start	Child Care Subsidy	PreK
Mission	School Readiness	Provide needs based child care assistance	School Readiness
Target Population	Children from birth to age 5	Low income families with children under age 12	At-risk four-year-olds who have not been exposed to other early education programs such as public or private preschool, Head Start, Early Head Start, or early intervention programs.

Program Comparison

	Smart Start	Child Care Subsidy	PreK
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varies by activity Local partnerships have flexibility for some activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 0 to 5, and Special Needs children, 200% of federal poverty level Age 6-12, 133% of federal poverty level Need child care for an eligible activity such as employment, high school or post-secondary education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income eligible at 75% of state median income Eligible without regard to income: some military families; children with Limited English Proficiency, IEP, some health conditions, or educational need identified by screening
Funding and Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonprofit organization at state and local levels Public/private partnership State and private funding Local decision-making to address local needs 75 local Smart Start Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of State and Federal funding from Block Grants and the General Fund. Locally administered program with State level support 100 local county departments of social services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State program with state funding, plus other sources of funding contributed according to local decisions Standard program; local decision-making about location of pre-k classrooms; all classrooms meet state standards 91 contractors

Pre-K

The NC Pre-K Program is designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible four-year old children.

The NC Pre-K Program Requirements are built on the premise that to be successful academically in school, children need to be prepared in all five of the developmental domains that are critical to children's overall well-being and success in reading and math as they enter school:

- Approaches to play and learning
- Emotional and social development
- Health and Physical Development
- Cognitive development
- Language development and communication

Source: http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/general/mb_ncprek.asp

Pre- K Evaluation

What Works For Health Database

Expected Beneficial Outcomes

- Improved cognitive skills
- Improved social emotional skills
- Increased academic achievement
- Increased earnings
- Reduced child care costs

Ratings:

- Evidence Rating: Scientifically Supported
- Impact on Disparities: Likely to Decrease Disparities

Source: <http://whatworksforhealth.wisc.edu/index.php>

Pre- K Evaluation

- State-sponsored pre-K programs, whether universal or not, improve children's language, math, and reading skills.
- Explicit academic instruction, low staff-to-student ratios, good classroom management, and emotional support can also improve children's cognitive and social outcomes.

Source: <http://whatworksforhealth.wisc.edu/index.php>

Pre- K Evaluation

The State of Preschool 2014, published by the National Institute for Early Education Research, provides information on the 40 states and Washington D.C. that offer pre-K programs.

Each program is measured against 10 benchmarks. These are:

Early Learning Standards	Maximum class size
Teacher degree	Staff-child ratio
Teacher specialized training	Screening/referral and support services
Assistant Teacher Degree	Meals
Teacher in-service	Monitoring

North Carolina was one of only 5 states, plus one of Louisiana's three programs, to meet all 10 benchmarks.

Source: Barnett, W.S., Carolan, M.E., Squires, J.H., Clarke Brown, K., & Horowitz, M. (2015). The state of preschool 2014: State preschool yearbook. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.

Recent Pre-K Evaluation

Impact of North Carolina's Early Childhood Initiatives on Special Education Placements in Third Grade

“We find that access to early childhood programs in North Carolina significantly reduces special education placements in third grade. At 2009 funding levels, the SS reduces placements by 10% and the MAF program by 32%. Together, at these funding levels, the two programs reduce the odds of special education placement by 39%.”

Source: Impact of North Carolina's Early Childhood Initiatives on Special Education Placements in Third Grade; Clara G. Muschkin, Helen F. Ladd, Kenneth A. Dodge, *Duke University*

Pre-K Certified Budget History and Number Served

	State	Lottery	TANF	Total	Number of Funded Slots
FY 2008-09	\$ 86.0	\$ 84.6	\$ -	\$ 170.6	33,798
FY 2009-10	\$ 53.0	\$ 84.6	\$ 28.0	\$ 165.6	31,197
FY 2010-11	\$ 35.8	\$ 79.6	\$ 45.0	\$ 160.4	30,767
FY 2011-12	\$ 65.0	\$ 63.1	\$ -	\$ 128.1	24,836
FY 2012-13	\$ 65.0	\$ 63.1	\$ -	\$ 128.1	24,664
FY 2013-14	\$ 65.0	\$ 75.5	\$ -	\$ 140.5	26,617
FY 2014-15	\$ 50.2	\$ 75.5	\$ 19.8	\$ 145.5	26,851
FY 2015-16	\$ 48.4	\$ 78.3	\$ 16.8	\$ 144.2	26,781

One-time funding:

- In SFY 11-12, a total of \$9.1 million in State funding was spent for one-time expansion of NC Pre-K. This added 1,982 slots, bringing the totals to \$137.2 million in state funding and 26,818 children served.
- In SFY 12-13, a total of \$12.4 million in state funding was spent for one-time expansion of NC Pre-K. This added 4,908 partial year slots, bringing the totals to \$140.5 million in state funding and 29,572 children served.

State Pre-K Monthly Slot Costs

Facility Type	FY 2013-14
Private Child Care - Lead Teacher with Birth-Kindergarten License	\$650
Private Child Care - Lead Teacher with 4-Year Degree without Birth-Kindergarten License	\$600
Public Schools	Up to \$473
Head Start	Up to \$400

Source: Division of Child Development and Early Education

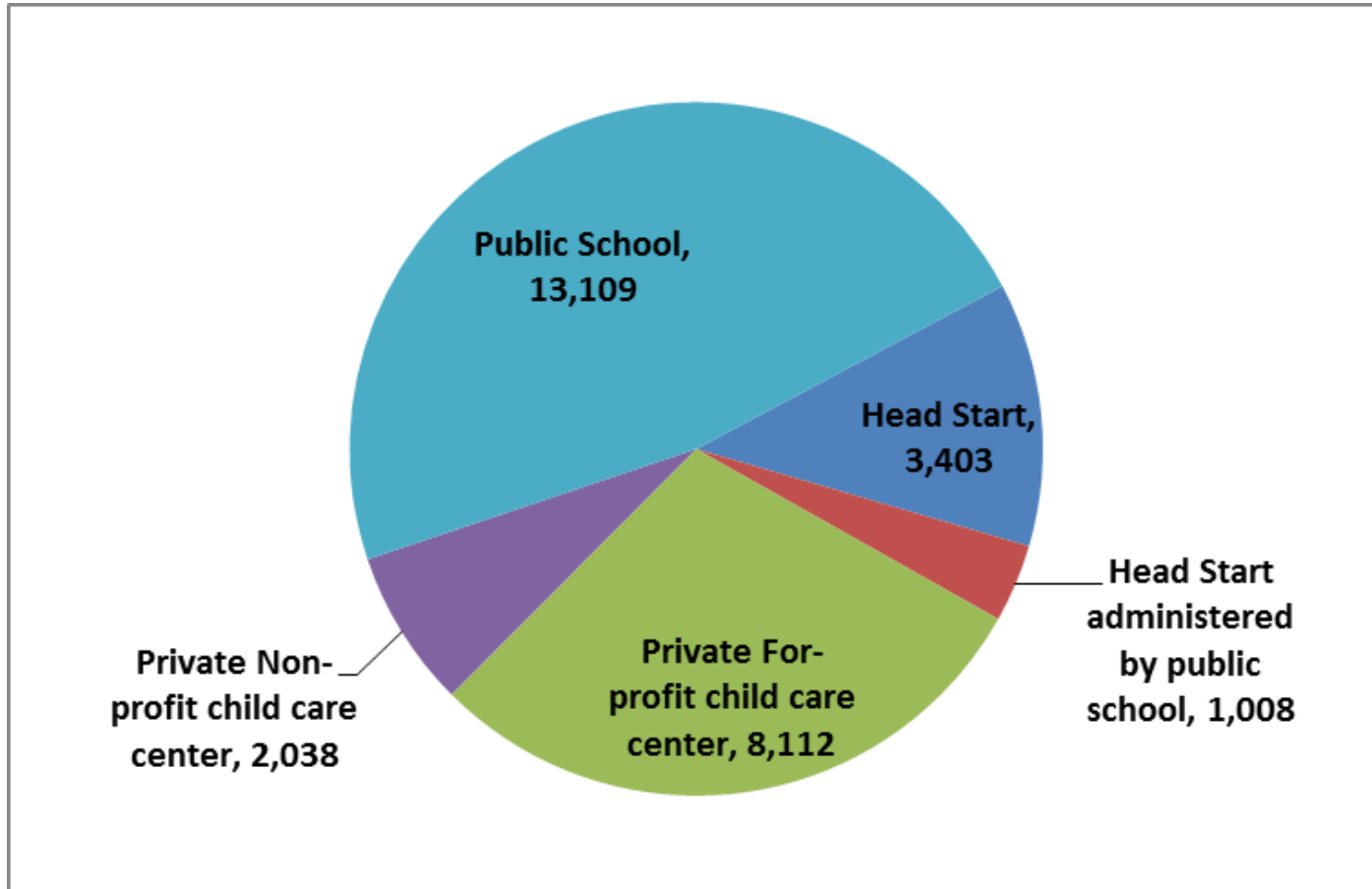
NC Pre-K Program Data for 2015-16

- Sites: 1159
- Classrooms: 1959
- Students Served: 27,667
- Contractors by Type
 - Public School – 42
 - Local Partnership for Children – 45
 - Head Start – 3
 - Other - 1

Source: Division of Child Development and Early Education, NCPREK Program Data 1 11 16.pdf

NC Pre-K Program Data for 2015-16

Students Served by Facility Type



Source: Division of Child Development and Early Education, NCPREK Program Data 1 11 16.pdf

Pre-K Site Selection

- The NC Pre-K Program requires that every county (or region) participating in NC Pre-K must establish and maintain a NC Pre-K Committee.
- The Committee must be co-chaired by the school superintendent for the local education agency (LEA) and the board chair (or designee) for the local Smart Start Partnership.
- The Committee selects a contractor agency.
- Each Pre-K Committee must have a Site Selection Subcommittee.

Source: NC Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) Program Requirements and Guidance, published by the Division of Child Development and Early Education

Pre-K Site Selection

- S.L. 2012-142, Section 10.1(f) required DCDEE to establish a standard decision-making process to be used by local NC Pre-K committees in awarding NC Pre-K classroom slots and student selection. DCDEE has implemented a standard site selection application and a site selection rubric which all Site Selection Subcommittees must utilize in awarding Pre-K classrooms.

Source: NC Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) Program Requirements and Guidance, published by the Division of Child Development and Early Education

Contractor Duties

- Program progress (recruiting, child identification and eligibility, enrollment, and attendance);
- Site updates (child placement; star licensure progress);
- Site staff education levels, staff salaries and progress toward goals (administrators, teachers, assistants);
- Professional development activities;

Source: NC Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) Program Requirements and Guidance, published by the Division of Child Development and Early Education

Contractor Duties Continued

- Efforts to collaborate with other agencies;
- Strengths and barriers to service delivery;
- Efforts to implement plans related to transportation, transitions, helping families access health insurance and a medical and dental home, helping ensure child health assessments, and consultation from a qualified health professional; and
- Fiscal and budget reports, including funds received and funds paid to subcontractor(s).

Source: NC Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) Program Requirements and Guidance, published by the Division of Child Development and Early Education

Questions?

Fiscal Research Division

Room 619, LOB

919-733-4910

www.ncleg.net/fiscalresearch/