

States are Leading the Way in Early Child Care and Education Programs

Federal programs are falling short of many families' needs

Eligibility requirements are complicated and strict



Parents are typically required to be:

- Working
- Attending job training, or
- Participating in an educational program

Only low-income families qualify for benefits:

Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG):

family earnings < 85% of state median income

→ States are allowed to set even stricter requirements, and most do.

Head Start: families with incomes below the federal poverty level (\$25,750 for family of 4)



Few eligible low-income families receive assistance



Only about **1 in 6** children eligible for CCDBG benefits receive support

31%

of eligible children ages 3-5 served by Head Start

7%

of eligible children under 3 served by Early Head Start

States are leading the way by expanding access to preschool programs



Nearly **1 in 3** 4-year-olds is enrolled in a state-funded preschool program

Nine states have programs that serve at least half of 4-year-olds:



State Spotlights

The District of Columbia's public preschool programs serve a total of **88%** of 4-year-olds



Oklahoma's 4-year-old public preschool program is offered in **99%** of school districts across the state

