

Summary of State Research

Joint Subcommittee on VPI

Tuesday, August 25, 2015

Virginia Early Childhood Foundation

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States Examined

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- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Michigan
- New Jersey
- North Carolina

These states were identified for study because of their success with mixed delivery.

Note: Many stats were derived from NIEER 2014 Yearbook; some have been updated by state representatives. Numbers have been rounded and in some cases averaged for easier comparison. States are in alpha order, with Virginia information shown along the bottom of each slide for comparison purposes.



Comparisons

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- Administration
- **Eligibility**
- Funding
- Contracting
- **Mixed Delivery**
- Quality: Structural and Process
- **Performance and Evaluation of Impact**
- Distinctive Approaches
- **Summary of Takeaways**
- Other



Pre K Program Administration

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| State | Year Begun | Name of Pre K Program | Administering Agency | Staffing | Other |
|-----------|------------|--|--|---|--|
| CT | 1997 | CT School Readiness Prog. | Office of Early Childhood (new) | | Targeted to specific districts |
| GA | 1993 | GA Pre K | Dept of Early Care & Learning | 40 staff (30 field based - monitoring, TA, quality imp.) | |
| MI | 1985 | Great Start Readiness Prog. | Dept of Education: Office of Great Start | 7+ staff | |
| NJ | 1999 | (Former) Abbott Preschool Program | Dept of Education: Div. of Early Childhood Education | 15 staff | Targeted to specific districts |
| NC | 2001 | NC Pre K (formerly More at Four Pre-K) | Dept of HHS: Div. of Child Dev. & Early Ed | 12 staff | Administration moved from DPI in 2011/12 |
| VA | 1995 | VPI | Dept of Education | 1 staff | |

Eligibility

| State | Children Eligible | Other |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|
| CT | All 3s and 4s in 19 priority districts (in legislation) and in 48 competitive (low wealth) districts. (67 out of 169 total) | In 48, 60% must be = or < 75% SMI |
| GA | All 4s (all 159 counties) | Wait list up to 10,000 |
| MI | 4s in households at or below 250% FPL. (333 of 545 districts) | > 250% may pay on sliding scale |
| NJ | All 3s and 4s in 35 priority (most economically distressed) districts. (out of 590 total) | Supreme Court decision |
| NC | 4s at risk in families at or < 75% state median income or military without regard to income. 20% of families may be >SMI but must have risk factor: dev. delay, education need, chronic health condition, limited English). (All 100 counties) | Wait list up to 10,000 |
| VA | 4s in households at or below 200% FPL, homeless, parents are school dropouts, and with special needs at or below 350%. (119 of 135 divisions) | |

Funding

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| State | Per Pupil Pre K: State/Combo (Per Pupil K-12)* | Total State Spending/Coverage | Local Match | Other |
|-----------|--|--|---|--|
| CT | \$9,000/\$11,500 (\$18,500)* | \$83 million - 9,300 3s (3%) and 4s (14%) | Not required but local share = \$24 million | All families contribute on sliding scale. General fund. |
| GA | \$3,700/\$3,700 (\$9,700) | \$305 million – 82,000 4s (60%) | Not required | Lottery revenues. |
| MI | \$3,700**/\$5,700 (\$14,000) | \$239 million – 37,500 4s (33%) | Not required | State \$ cannot be used on space/facility. Sliding scale for families beyond 250% FPL. State school aid fund. |
| NJ | \$13,500/\$13,500 (\$20,000) | \$611 million – 50,000 3s (19%) and 4s (21%) | Not required | 1998 Supreme Court decision required pre K for 4s in 15 poorest districts. State preK education aid. |
| NC | \$5,000/\$7,400 (\$9,000) | \$145 million - 30,000 4s (21%) | Must access & report other resources; no percentage | State general + lottery funds. |
| VA | \$3,700/\$6,000*** (\$12,800) | \$68 million – 18,000 4s (18%) | Required - up to 0.5 based on LCI | Lottery fund. Local share - \$40 million |

Contracting

| State | Funding Flow | Administration and Selection |
|-----------|--|---|
| CT | State agency to municipalities which determine contracts with public schools, private and faith-based providers, HS. | State funds local councils (with designated members) co-chaired by Mayor and division superintendent. Councils oversee competitive selection process for contractors. |
| GA | Lottery revenue appropriated to state agency. | State contracts directly with 1100 competitively selected providers (public schools, private and faith-based) through annual grants. All HS programs receive GA Pre K \$. |
| MI | State agency to regional education hubs which may contract with local providers. | Regional education hubs oversee competitive process. Over-income families pay on a sliding scale; scale set by state but collected by provider. |
| NJ | State agency to districts which may contract with providers. | Funding amount is negotiated between districts and providers; state sets maximum. |
| NC | State agency to local contractor (either school division or Smart Start) which contracts with providers. Up to 8% of funds allowed for disbursement costs. | Local pre K advisory committees (designated members) co-chaired by division superintendent and Smart Start oversee mandated competitive site selection process. |
| VA | State agency to local division or govt. which may contract with providers. | Subcontracting is at local agency discretion. |

Mixed Delivery

| State | % Public /Private | Of Private, % For Profit/ Non-Profit | Lever |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| CT | 25 / 75 | Not tracked | Parent choice. |
| GA | 50 / 50 | N/A | 1995 expansion: space needed; public \$ can't be spent on bricks/mortar. Business supported mixed delivery. Parent choice. |
| MI | 71 / 29 | 21 / 79 | Legislative requirement. 30% must be private. |
| NJ | 46 / 54 | 33 / 67 | Supreme Court decision required; schools didn't have enough capacity. |
| NC | 55 / 45 | 57/43* | Providers sought selection process in legislation. Parent choice in NC Child Care Law and Rules. |
| VA | 91 / 9 | 6 / 94 | |

Quality: Structural and Process

| State (Ratio) | Lead Teacher Qualifications | PD System and Supports | QRIS |
|---------------------|--|--|--|
| CT (2:20) | CDA + 12 EC credits Goals: by 2015, 50% must have BA and 50% must have EC-specific AA. By 2020, BA. | CT IHEs are forming and reviewing EC degree programs, inc. EC teacher credential to support increasing requirements. | |
| GA (2:22) | BA. Those with teacher certification paid more. | Over 22 years, have supported growth from AA to BA requirement. | QRIS not required but available. |
| MI (2:16) | BA | | Min. 3 stars required for all providers. |
| NJ (2:15) | BA and PreK-3 license | 1 coach for every 20 classrooms. Master teachers/improvement plans. | Currently being implemented. |
| NC (2:18) | BA and BK license In private centers, BA and working toward BK license. Majority hold licensure. | NC State Board of Education mandated mentoring, teacher evaluation, PD. 48 paid TA/coaches at 2 IHEs; 120+ specialists | 4-5 stars required for all providers. |
| VA (2:18) | BA and license when public funds support teacher salary | Regional Training and Technical Assistance Centers | QRIS not required but available. |

Performance and Evaluation of Impact

| State | Practice | Annual Funding Dedicated | Most Longitudinal Outcome Documented |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|---|
| CT | | Not mandated | |
| GA | (Multi year Frank Porter Graham (FPG) evaluation begun 2011) | Not mandated | Current phase follows a representative sample of Pre-K students through 3 rd grade. |
| MI | Statutory: Annual earmark for High Scope longitudinal study | \$300,000 | Through high school, 57% participants graduated on time vs. 43% (non participating peers). (44% costs recouped from savings.) |
| NJ | Biennial NIEER evaluation; random sample. | \$200,000 | Participants have advantage through 5 th grade. |
| NC | Statutory requirement since 2001. (FPG) | \$1 million | End of 3 rd grade, participants had higher reading & math scores on standardized tests, less special education placements than non participating peers. |
| VA | (JLARC study 2008) | Not mandated | JLARC reported on small DOE study which reported advantage on 3 rd gr. tests for participants vs. non participating peers. Privately funded study showed advantage in on-time promotion through 8 th grade. |

Summary of Takeaways

Eligibility:

- Opportunity for state to decide which children are prioritized for state investment.
- Consider Pre K within broader context of high quality early learning for children birth to K.

Mixed Delivery:

- Requires mandate or dedication of administering agency for successful implementation.
- Aided by collaborative decision-making and competitive selection process.

Quality and Performance:

- Highly competent teachers supported by robust professional development system and supports.
- Ongoing program evaluation mandated with annual dedicated funding to understand longitudinal impact.



Distinctive Characteristics

| State | |
|-----------|---|
| CT | Commitment is all 3s and 4s in poverty districts full day (10 hours) full year (50 wks). State funds school readiness councils . Mayor and local superintendent + specific council representation oversee competitive process to select providers. New office to integrate/all programs from 5 different agencies including HV and child care subsidy. Goal is to serve highest need kids in highest quality spaces – regardless of funding streams. Gradual increase in degree requirements with accompanying PD system supports. Not much emphasis on evaluation. |
| GA | Department integrates pre K, child care, nutrition, and Head Start. Large staff for GA Pre K administration; classrooms are GA-characterized as medium quality. Rate differential depending on type of provider.; all HS programs receive supplemental state funds. CCDF funds paid for 6 wk. summer transition camp for kids identified as needing intervention before Pre K |
| MI | State Pre K \$ cannot be spent on space; in kind from participating providers is assumed. |
| NJ | Emphasis on BA/MA degreed teachers/salaries and 2:15 ratio (both costly - 70% costs spent on salaries). NJ stated private programs score highest on quality measures, school classrooms next, HS score lowest. In Abbott ruling, multiple strategies re educational equity for impoverished individuals and communities; Pre K is “the only one that worked.” |
| NC | Local Pre K advisory committees (designated members) co-chaired by division superintendent and Smart Start oversee mandated competitive site selection process. Rate differential depending on type of provider. Exceptional long-term focus on professional development system and supports. |

Other

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| State | NIEER Access Ranking for 4 year olds (and 3 year olds) | NIEER Resources Ranking State Spending / All reported spending | NIEER Benchmarks met (out of 10 possible) |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| CT | 29 (12) | 3 / 3 | 6 |
| GA | 7 | 23 / 29 | 8 |
| MI | 21 | 12 / 19 | 8 |
| NJ | 18 (4) | 2 / 2 | 9 |
| NC | 24 | 14 / 9 | 10 |
| VA | 27 | 24 / 17 | 6 |