

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR PRESCHOOL

A Three State Highlight

West Virginia: Universal PreK Program

- [NIEER 2019 West Virginia Profile](#)
- [TITLE 126, Procedural Rule, Board of Education](#) (Code §126-28-4. County Collaborative Early Childhood Team)
- [West Virginia Universal Pre-K Guidebook](#)

Summary: Since 2002, West Virginia has implemented a statewide pre-k program for all four-year-olds and three-year-olds with special needs through the Universal PreK model. Collaboration at the local and state-level ensures standards alignment and coordination of services, including enrollment, curriculum, and transitions. A statewide committee, designated as the Universal Pre-K Steering Team, collaborates to support the implementation of Pre-K, ensure maximization of resources, and also offers technical assistance to county collaborative teams. The team includes representatives from the West Virginia Department of Education, special education, Department of Health and Human Resources, and the Head Start Collaboration Office.

Each county must also establish a county collaborative team (Code §126-28-4. County Collaborative Early Childhood Team) with, at a minimum, representation from the county school system preschool program, the county school system preschool special needs program, a licensed community child care program in that county not operated by the county school system, and the Head Start program in that county. If licensed community child care does not exist, a representative from the local child care resource and referral agency must be included in the core team.

Title 126 Procedural Rule Board of Education (4.5): *Counties must maximize early childhood resources by collaborating with existing programs within the county before opening new classrooms operated solely by the county board of education as required by W. Va. Code §18-5-44. No less than 50% of the classrooms for eligible children must be provided through contractual agreements with community programs, including but not limited to Head Start and child care, unless the county collaborative early childhood team can document that those programs do not exist in that county, cannot meet the mandates of this policy, or choose not to participate.*

Goal: To always go back to what's best for kids.

New Jersey Abbott Preschool Program

- [NIEER 2019 New Jersey Profile](#)
- [Preschool model standards](#)
- [Abbott v. Burke \(legal case\)](#)
- [N.J.A.C. 6A:13A, Elements of High Quality Preschool Programs](#)

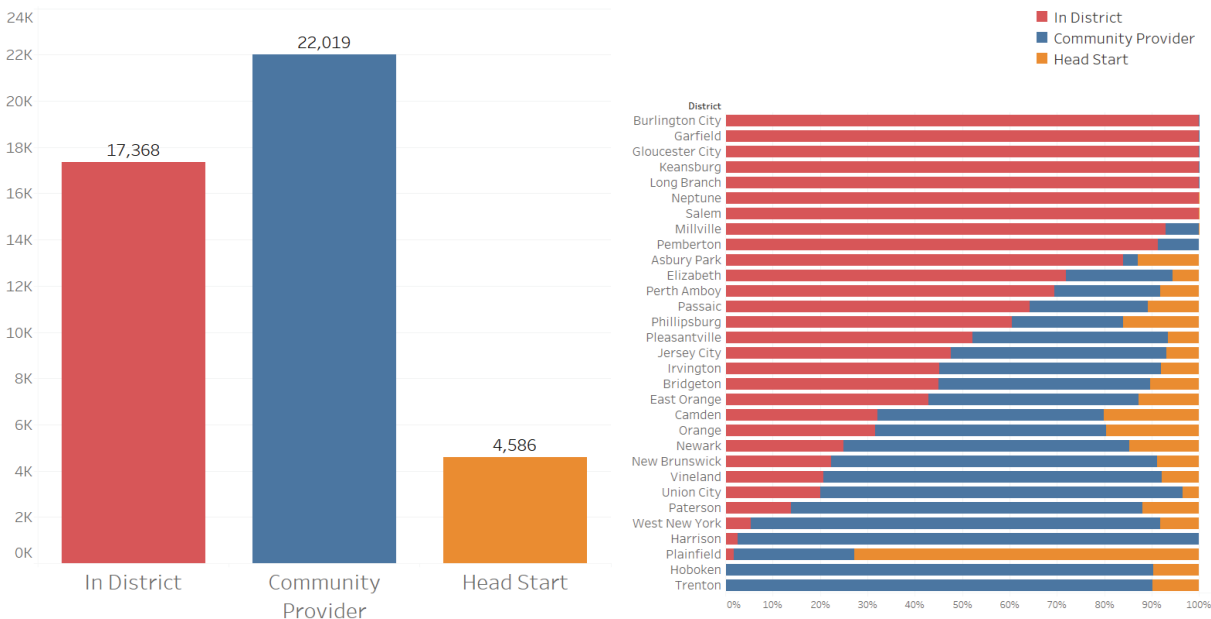
Summary: The New Jersey Preschool Program, also known as Abbott Preschool, emerged out of a court case in 2000 on the premise the education system was not providing an equitable education to all children. Data from 3rd grade reading levels data demonstrated a disparity between students who had a quality early education experience, compared to those who did not.

The model is funded through the Department of Education school funding formula. School districts contract with high quality child care and Head Start to meet the 90% enrollment goal for 3- and 4-year-olds. School districts also determine the curriculum (i.e. creative curriculum), and master teachers from the school district partner with

community-based child care settings to support fidelity to the preschool model. Contracts detail annual funding as well as standards. Child Care Development Funds are leveraged to provide scholarships for B.A. degrees with a specialization in early childhood. The cost of the model is about \$10k/child.

Goal: Provide an equitable education experience to all children. The Abbott Preschool model is a “win-win” for school districts who support a vision of equity and know they can only provide this when children have access to a high-quality preschool experience.

Approved Enrollment by Provider Type, Abbott Districts 2018-19



Colorado Preschool Program

- [NIEER 2019 Colorado Profile](#)
- [Community Partners and the Colorado Preschool Program: A guide for early care and education programs who are interested in becoming community partners](#)
- [Colorado Preschool Program: Legislative Report 2020](#)

Summary: Since 1988 the Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) has provided funding to children who are at-risk for later school failure. CPP is a state-funded early childhood education program administered by the Colorado Department of Education and is managed by local school districts and their preschool advisory councils. Each participating school district conducts a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to serve eligible children in school district settings, local childcare centers, community preschools or Head Start programs. Through this mixed-delivery model, all partnering preschool entities work with a local coordinator and a regional specialist to support contract requirements, including education requirements and licensing standards.

As of the 2018-2019 school year, 82.1% of children in the Community Preschool Program were served in a public school setting, and 17.9% were served in non-public school programs through partnership agreements with school districts. The CPP funding is primarily targeted to rural districts where early education experiences are limited or non-existent.

Goal: The Colorado Department of Education’s vision is for all students to graduate from high school ready for college and careers and prepared to be productive citizens. They believe high-quality early learning experiences provide a strong foundation for students to succeed throughout their education.

