

Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI)

Basic Program Information		
Ages served	4-year-olds; 3-year-olds in select localities; limited exceptions for 5-year-olds	<i>In FY23, all localities administering VPI programs had 4-year-old slots. Slots for 3-year-olds were available in 52 localities.</i>
Child eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines Family experiencing homelessness Child has a disability Parents did not complete high school Locally-determined eligibility criteria for up to 15% of students (or more with a waiver) 	<p><i>Examples of local eligibility criteria include (but are not limited to): child is a dual language learner; active duty/deployed military parent or guardian; child is in foster care system.</i></p> <p><i>In FY23, 61 localities had a waiver to serve more than 15% of students with local eligibility.</i></p>
Family payment responsibility	None	
Setting	Local public schools; licensed child care centers or family day homes in select localities	<i>Offered in public schools in nearly all localities; offered in community provider settings in 13 localities in FY23.</i>
Duration/schedule	School day/year (typically August/September—May/June); some slots are offered half-day	<i>Half-day slots represent 4% of all VPI slots.</i>
Geographic availability	Every school division is eligible to be allocated slots	<i>Note: There are currently only 3 localities without VPI programs. Each of them were allocated slots in FY23 but chose not to use them.</i>
Total enrollment (FY23)	21,790 slots	<i>4-year-olds comprise 92% (20,067) of total enrollment</i>
Program Administration		
Awards funding	Virginia Department of Education	
Sets program guidelines	Virginia Department of Education	
Administers the program	Typically local school divisions	<i>In Fairfax, the Office for Children administers VPI.</i>
Funding		
Funding source	State general funds (SGF); local match	
Total appropriations in FY23	\$150,355,986 in SGF	
Total expenditures in FY23	\$ 186,009,710, including \$67,771,886 in local match	<i>Note: per pupil funding is split into state share and local match. Local match is calculated based on a composite index of local ability to pay, but capped at 50%. Slots offered in community provider settings receive additional add-on funds, which do not require a match.</i>

		<p><i>Annually a portion of allocated funding for VPI reverts back to the general fund when divisions do not have space available to offer all slots allocated or when slots offered are not filled.</i></p>
<i>Per-pupil cost</i>	\$8,359	<p><i>Note: Most localities have a per pupil funding level of \$8,359, except:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Localities in Planning District Eight (\$8,989); and</i> • <i>Stafford, Fauquier, Spotsylvania, Clarke, Warren, Frederick, Culpeper, Fredericksburg, and Winchester: \$8,516.</i> <p><i>Slots served in community provider settings are eligible for an add-on grant of \$1,500 to \$3,500, depending on the locality.</i></p>
<i>Basis for per-child funding</i>	Based on the Virginia Standards of Quality (SOQ); rebenchmarked every 2 years	
Programmatic requirements		
<i>Participation in VQB5</i>	Yes	
<i>Teacher requirements</i>	<p>Code of Virginia (22.1-299) requires that all teachers paid with public funds must have a teacher’s license issued by the Board of Education. VPI state funds cannot be used to pay a teacher who does not hold a teaching license. Compensation for non-licensed VPI teachers can be paid from private funding sources.</p>	<p><i>An appropriate endorsement on a teaching license issued by the Virginia Board of Education for a VPI teacher includes any of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PreK-3</i> • <i>PreK-6</i> • <i>Early Childhood Special Education with 3-and 4-year-old endorsement</i> • <i>Early Childhood Special Education for self-contained special education classrooms</i>
<i>Other</i>	<p>VPI classrooms must use a vetted curriculum and participate in appropriate student assessments, including the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP).</p> <p>VPI students are assigned student testing identifiers and are captured in VDOE’s longitudinal database to track child outcomes.</p> <p>Divisions are required to participate in monitoring every 4 years.</p>	

Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP)

Basic Program Information												
Ages served	6 weeks to 12 years (up to 18 years for certain children with disabilities)											
Child eligibility	<p>Income:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For families with at least one child ages 5 and younger, not yet in kindergarten, 85% of the state median income (~\$97,000 for a family of 4) For families with school-age children only, income eligibility based on locality, ranging from 150-250% of the federal poverty guidelines (~\$41,600-69,400 for a family of 4) <p>Parental activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents or guardians must be working, looking for work, or in school or job training 	<p>Eligibility for CCSP must fall within federal parameters set by the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child is under the age of 13 (or the age of 19 if physically, mentally, or emotionally unable to care for themselves) Household income is at or below 85% state median income Parent is employed, in school or job training, or looking for work <p>Virginia is maximizing federal eligibility rules for families with young children.</p>										
Family payment responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat per-child fee based on family income for up to 3 children Families in poverty do not owe a copay Copays do not exceed 7% of income for any family 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Income threshold</th> <th>Monthly fee per child</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-100% FPG</td> <td>\$0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101-200% FPG</td> <td>\$60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>201-300% FPG</td> <td>\$120</td> </tr> <tr> <td>301% FPG-85% SMI</td> <td>\$180</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Income threshold	Monthly fee per child	0-100% FPG	\$0	101-200% FPG	\$60	201-300% FPG	\$120	301% FPG-85% SMI	\$180
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0-100% FPG	\$0											
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301% FPG-85% SMI	\$180											
Setting	Licensed and regulated child care centers and family day homes	Includes faith-based settings										
Duration/schedule	Based on parent/caregiver work or school schedule, not to exceed 60 hours per week	Note: CCSP is the only ECCE program that can accommodate non-traditional hour care needs, including evening, overnight, and weekend care.										
Geographic availability	Every locality											
Total enrollment (FY23)	40,286 as of June 2023											
Program Administration												
Awards funding	Virginia Department of Education											
Sets program guidelines	Virginia Department of Education											

<i>Administers the program</i>	Virginia Department of Social Services	<i>Eligibility and enrollment activities are facilitated through 130+ local departments of social services</i>
Funding		
<i>Funding source</i>	Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant State General Funds	
<i>Total appropriations in FY23</i>	\$278,697,970 (85% percent federal)	<i>Appropriations include federal funds and required state match. These funds support direct services (through CCSP) as well as activities to improve the health, safety, and quality of services across the entire child care system. Federal funds are subject to different spending timelines than state general funds. Virginia typically rolls funds over from year to year, meaning annual appropriations are not fully reflective of available funding.</i>
<i>Total expenditures in FY23</i>	\$318,082,931.41	<i>FY23 expenditures include \$137.8 million in federal COVID relief funding appropriated through CCDBG. Total expenditures reflect those for direct services ONLY.</i>
<i>Per-pupil cost</i>	\$13,309 for full-day, full-year care on average for children < 5 years	<i>Average per-pupil costs reflects the weighted regional cost per child for children ages birth-5. Maximum Reimbursement Rates are set at the local level by age, program type, and care duration (full- versus part-day).</i>
<i>Basis for per-child funding</i>	Cost of Quality cost estimation model	
Programmatic requirements		
<i>Participation in VQB5</i>	Yes	
<i>Teacher requirements</i>	Minimum standards for teachers under applicable child care health and safety regulations	
<i>Other</i>		

Mixed Delivery grant program

Basic Program Information		
Ages served	Birth to 4 years	
Child eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines Family experiencing homelessness Child has a disability Parents did not complete high school Regionally-determined eligibility criteria for up to 15% of students (or more with a waiver) 	<i>All Ready Regions determine regional eligibility criteria.</i>
Family payment responsibility	None	
Setting	Licensed child care centers and family day homes	
Duration/schedule	Full-day/year-round (at least 2400 hours per year beginning in FY24)	<i>Beginning in FY24, Mixed Delivery has two options for funding services: full-day/year-round (when the slot is fully funded by MD) and wraparound (when MD funds hours for before/after and summer care wraparound a VPI or Early Head Start/Head Start slot).</i>
Geographic availability	Every Ready Region	<i>Mixed Delivery was available to children in 56 localities in FY23.</i>
Total enrollment (FY23)	2,146	<i>Enrollment as of FY2023. Infants and toddlers reflect 14% of total enrollment.</i>
Program Administration		
Awards funding	Virginia Department of Education	
Sets program guidelines	Virginia Early Childhood Foundation	
Administers the program	Ready Regions	<i>Ready Regions are Virginia's regional entities responsible for supporting the coordination of ECCE services and continuous quality improvement activities in VQB5. Beginning in FY24, all Mixed Delivery grants are managed via Ready Regions.</i>
Funding		
Funding source	State General Funds COVID relief funds through CCDBG (through FY24)	

<i>Total appropriations in FY23</i>	\$26,340,900 (~\$7 million in SGF)	<i>Mixed Delivery receives an annual state appropriation. Since FY2021, VDOE has supplemented state investments with COVID relief funding in response to family demand for services in community-based settings.</i>
<i>Total expenditures in FY23</i>	\$26,340,900	
<i>Per-pupil cost</i>	\$15,126 for full-day, full-year care on average in FY24	<i>Average per-pupil costs reflects the weighted regional cost per child for young children. Actual costs vary based on whether it is full-day/year-round or wraparound. Wraparound costs account for funding provided by VPI or EHS/HS.</i>
<i>Basis for per-child funding</i>	Cost of Quality cost estimation model	
Programmatic requirements		
<i>Participation in VQB5</i>	Yes	
<i>Teacher requirements</i>	Minimum standards for teachers under applicable child care health and safety regulations	
<i>Other</i>	Mixed Delivery preschool classrooms must use a vetted curriculum and participate in appropriate student assessments, including the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP). Mixed Delivery students are assigned student testing identifiers and are captured in VDOE's longitudinal database to track child outcomes.	

Head Start/Early Head Start

Basic Program Information		
Ages served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth up to 3 years (Early Head Start) • 3 to 5 years (Head Start) 	
Child eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines • Recipient Agencies are allowed 10% of their total funded enrollment to include families with income up to 130% of the federal poverty guidelines. • Additionally, recipient agencies are required to enroll 10% of their total funded enrollment for students identified with disabilities. 	<i>Head Start allows categorical eligibility for families receiving SNAP, TANF, SSI benefits, homeless, and/or in foster care. Categorical eligible applicants are not guaranteed enrollment. All recipient agencies must develop selection criteria based on their community needs assessment data.</i>
Family payment responsibility	None	
Setting	Public schools; licensed childcare centers, family day homes and home-based.	
Duration/schedule	Varies by recipient agency	
Geographic availability	Every Ready Region	<i>A total of 60 EHS and/or HS grant awards provide services in approximately 132 counties across the state.</i>
Total enrollment (FY23)	13,944	<i>Reflects funded enrollment. VDOE does not have access to comprehensive, real-time data on actual enrollment for Head Start/Early Head Start recipient agencies.</i>
Program Administration		
Awards funding	Federal Office of Head Start	
Sets program guidelines	Federal Office of Head Start	
Administers the program	Head Start recipient agencies	
Funding		
Funding source	Federal-to-local Head Start grant awards	
Total Funding Awarded in FY23	\$157,786,562	<i>Approved Appropriations added 5.6% cost-of-living adjustment, and Quality Improvement dollars of approximately \$280 for each Head</i>

		<i>Start funded enrollment slot and \$420 for each Early Head Start funded enrollment slot.</i>
<i>Total expenditures in FY23</i>	--	<i>VDOE does not have access to real-time expenditure data for Head Start recipient agencies.</i>
<i>Per-pupil cost</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Start: \$9,507 • Early Head Start: \$16,714 • Combined HS and EHS: \$10,988 • Early Head Start Child Care Partnership: \$17,911 	<i>Per-pupil costs reflect averages for each program type.</i>
<i>Basis for per-child funding</i>	Head Start grant formula	
Programmatic requirements		
<i>Participation in VQB5</i>	Yes	
<i>Teacher requirements</i>	Lead teachers must have a bachelor's degree for school-division Head Start recipient agencies.	<i>Per 45CFR 1302.91 of the Head Start Program Performance Standards, a program must ensure all center-based teachers have at least an associate or bachelor's degree in child development or early childhood education.</i>
<i>Other</i>	All EHS/HS programs must meet Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting standardized, structured child assessments; and • Implementing a research-based curricula. 	<i>Other requirements for Head Start programs may vary by setting. For example, school-based Head Start programs participate in the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP) and are required to assign student testing identifiers to participating children.</i>

Early Childhood Special Education (IDEA Part B, Section 619)

Basic Program Information		
Ages served	2 to 5 years (two by Sept 30 of the school year)	
Child eligibility	Preschool-aged children from age two (whose birthday falls on or before September 30) through five with a disability may be eligible for Early Childhood Special Education services under one or more of 13 disability categories , which are defined in the federal and state regulations. The child receives an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that is implemented by licensed teachers and therapists	<i>Note: children in ECSE may also be served in other ECCE programs (including VPI, Head Start, and Mixed Delivery). Children in ECSE typically retain eligibility for special education upon entering kindergarten. Approximately one-third of children served in early intervention (IDEA Part C) are referred for ECSE, of which two-thirds are found eligible.</i>
Family payment responsibility	None	None
Setting	Public schools and community-based settings	<i>Note: Special education is a service. A child with an IEP may receive special education services in any setting determined appropriate by the IEP team. However, federal and state regulations state a child with an IEP should be educated in the least restrictive environment (the setting he would attend if he did not have an IEP) and have access to the general curriculum.</i> <i>In FY23, just 28% of preschool children with IEP served in a general education preschool program while 42% were served in a segregated environment (self-contained special education classroom or separate school).</i>
Duration/schedule	Typically school day/school year	<i>Length of school day and number of days per week varies across school divisions; programs may be full day or half day</i>
Geographic availability	Every local school division must provide services to any eligible child	
Total enrollment (FY23)	13,500	<i>16% increase over previous year, nearly returning to pre-pandemic levels</i>
Program Administration		
Awards funding	Virginia Department of Education	

<i>Sets program guidelines</i>	Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and Virginia (Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia)	
<i>Administers the program</i>	Local school divisions	
Funding		
<i>Funding source</i>	IDEA Part B, 619 funds IDEA Part B, 611 funds State General Funds Local Funds	<i>IDEA 619 funds are not enough to fund ECSE; LEAs must use other funds to provide ECSE</i>
<i>Total expenditures in FY23</i>	IDEA 619 = \$7,367,734.00	<i>VDOE does not have access to data to account for all fund sources supporting children with disabilities.</i>
<i>Per-pupil cost</i>	Varies based on child and services required	
<i>Basis for per-child funding</i>	Individualized based on services required by the child	<i>Many things impact the per-pupil cost. For example, teacher-child ratios (self-contained class has 8 children/teacher); related services (e.g., speech, occupational therapy); paraprofessionals; technology; materials; transportation.</i>
Programmatic requirements		
<i>Participation in VQB5</i>	Yes	
<i>Teacher requirements</i>	Teacher in public school settings must have a teaching license in Special Education Early Childhood Birth-Age 5	<i>A teacher may have a dual license in Special Education Early Childhood Birth-Age 5 and PreK-grade 3 or grade 6 and eligible to teach preschool children with and without IEPs (this is beneficial and supports inclusion). Special Education is one of the top areas for teacher shortages in Virginia.</i>
<i>Other</i>		