

Tennessee's milestones

Year	Action
1998-99	State began its pilot Pre-K program for at-risk students, enrolling 600 children ages 3 and 4
2005-06	<p>New budget proposal expanded the existing pilot program by earmarking \$25 million each year in lottery excess</p> <p>This \$25 million added 300 classrooms for at-risk 4-year-olds, resulting in a total of 446 Pre-K classrooms, and a total enrollment of 9,000 children</p> <p>As of 2005-06, local school districts are accountable for matching state dollars for new programs, based on their state/local match requirement</p> <p>With \$10 million from state general revenues, total Pre-K spending by state government stood at \$35 million</p> <p>All but 13 counties in the state had some form of state-supported Pre-K program</p>
2006-07	<p>A \$20 million budget increase in state general revenues is allocated to Pre-K, a 57.1% increase from the prior year</p> <p>The expanded funding created 230 new classrooms and is expected to boost enrollment by 5,000 additional children this year</p> <p>Still, according to the National Institute for Early Education Research, it would cost approximately \$193 million to provide Pre-K access to all 4-year-olds in the state, given its 2004-05 expenditure level—an additional \$138 million over the 2006-07 budget</p>

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education, 2006; State of Tennessee, 2007a, 2007b; Pre-K Now, 2006, 2007; Barnett, et al., 2006.