

2007 CHILD CARE LEGISLATION IN THE STATES

State	Bill	Date Enacted	Language
Arkansas	SB 181	April 5, 2007	Appropriates funds for operating expenses (\$32.4 million), grant payments (\$209 million) and loan guarantees (\$100,000) for the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Education for the biennial period ending June 30, 2009.
	SB 602	April 10, 2007	Appropriates \$10,000,000 to the Department of Education for the construction and renovation of pre-kindergarten facilities.
Colorado	HB 1062	May 31, 2007	Creates the Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission. Permits counties to apply for local early childhood council designation and to receive funds for local needs. Creates an application process and identifies the necessary components. Creates an Early Childhood Council Advisory team which is designed to increasing and sustaining the quality, accessibility, capacity, and affordability of early childhood services for children and their families. Repeals the pilot program for the community consolidated child care services. And establishes an Early Childhood Cash Fund within the state treasury to fund all activities specified in the bill.
	SB 4	May 15, 2007	Directs the Department to establish a statewide system of early intervention services and a coordinated system of payments for these services. Certifies community centered boards as early intervention service brokers for early intervention services. Directs the Division of Insurance to establish a registry of early intervention service providers to process reimbursements and to negotiate payments. Finally, creates the Early Intervention Service Trust Fund for the direct and indirect costs of administering the program.
Florida	S 450	May 3, 2007	Expands the Florida Teachers Lead Program stipend to pre-kindergarten teachers in public schools and public charter schools
Hawaii	HB 531	May 1, 2007	Looks into the feasibility of expanding Hawaii's early intervention program and to continue services for children ranging in age from three-to-five-years old. Established a "Hawaii 3-5 Transition" task force to study the feasibility of expanding Hawaii's early intervention section. Finally, appropriates \$120,000 for the work of the task force.
Indiana	SB 1001 Public Law No.234	July 1, 2007	Creates a Pre-kindergarten Grant Pilot Program. Directs the department to give priority to lower performing school corporations and private providers in the low performing areas. Allows providers to contract with an individual or non-profit agency to implement the program. Requires all service providers to meet the minimum requirements for pre-kindergarten curriculum, class size and teacher requirements. And finally, requires the department to monitor the performance of students who participate in the pilot program as they continue through elementary school
	SB 104 Public Law No. 126	May 3, 2007	Established Child Care Advisory Committees for child care centers and home-based child care to provide information, advice and assistance concerning the implementation of specific child care regulations. Creates the Committee on Child Care and defines its members. Declares that the purpose of the Committee on Child Care is to study the system of child care regulation and make purposeful recommendations on the quality, access, affordability and resources.

State	Bill	Date Enacted	Language
Iowa	HB 877	May 10, 2007	Establishes a statewide voluntary preschool program for four-year-old children. Appropriates \$15 million for fiscal year 2009, \$15 million for fiscal year 2010 and \$16.1 million for fiscal year 2011. Provides for phase-in programs. Requires teachers to be employed by or under contract with the school district, licensed, and possess a bachelor's or graduate degree with a major in early childhood education or other appropriate majors. Requires a minimum of ten hours per week of instruction and requires a provision that ensures that children receiving care from other child care arrangements can participate in preschool programs without the disruptions cause by transportation issues or movement from one site to the other. Finally, requires providers to submit a collaborative program proposal that demonstrates the involvement of multiple community stakeholders.
Mississippi	SB 2667	March 22, 2007	Directs the Department of Human Services to implement the "Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2007," which is a voluntary early care and education grant program which is a collaboration amongst the programs providing pre-kindergarten services. Specifies how the funds may be used. Defines the members of the committee which are appointed by the Governor. Specifies the criteria by which the committee will provide these grants to certain programs. Appropriates necessary funds in fiscal year 2008. And finally, requires an annual report to the Legislature and Governor regarding the effectiveness of the program.
North Dakota	SB 2186	May 2, 2007	Establishes a program of transition assistance to pay a portion of child care expenses for families that lose eligibly, and remain ineligible, for certain benefits due to earning from employment. Limits the transition benefit period to six months following the initial loss of benefits.
	SB 2030	May 3, 2007	Permits school boards in all districts to create pre-kindergarten programs and use state, federal, or private funds which are specifically appropriated for the program.
Vermont	HB 534	June 1, 2007	Requires the State Board of Education and the Secretary of Human Services to adopt joint rules regarding pre-kindergarten education. Establishes minimum quality standards necessary for a district to include pre-kindergarten children within its average daily membership. Clarifies that a public school choosing to offer ten hours of pre-kindergarten education per week to three-and-four-year-olds may count these children within its average daily membership with a weight of .46. Limits the number of children each district can count within its average daily membership. Permits school districts to contract with private providers and specifies the necessary qualification for those providers. Clarifies the authority of the State Board of Education and the Secretary of Human Services to regulate pre-kindergarten programs. Finally, requires reports the General Assembly regarding the cost and effectiveness of pre-kindergarten programs.
Washington	HB 1916 Chapter 278	July 22, 2007	Directs the interest arbitration regarding certain care providers to include comparison of child care provider subsidy rates and reimbursement programs by public entities.
	HB 2319	July 22, 2007	Requires the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to inventory and survey all campus-based early learning programs and services for the creation of a coordinated system of course offering and early learning education opportunities. Directs the state board to consult with the department of early learning to develop standards for coursework and training in early childhood development. Finally, requires a formal report to the legislature by December 1, 2007.