

Exhibit 3: Types of Early Childhood Education

Reported by National Research Coordinators

Country	Universal Early Childhood Education Programs Available			Description of Targeted Early Childhood Education Programs
	Early Childhood Educational Development Programs (Children Under 3)	Preprimary Education Programs (Children 3 or Older)	Number of Years Students May Attend Programs	
Australia	○	●	2	The targeted coverage varies by state but entails either specific funding to attend the programs above, or provision of special programs, for children from low SES backgrounds, Indigenous children, children from refugee families, multiple birth children, and/or children under child protection programs.
Austria	●	●	4 or more	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Azerbaijan	○	●	1	The education system of Azerbaijan provides the whole society with the same level of education regardless of socioeconomic status.
Bahrain	○	●	4	PPE programs are available for all children, but they are not compulsory.
Belgium (Flemish)	●	●	4	Early childhood education programs are available for all children, but financial support for schools with children from certain subgroups (such as low-income families and different home languages) is available.
Belgium (French)	○	●	3	Early childhood education programs are available for all children, but financial support for schools with children from certain subgroups (such as low-income families and different home languages), and for schools with children with special needs, is available.
Bulgaria	●	●	4 or more	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Canada	○	●	1	Targeted ECED and PPE coverage is provided in half of Canadian provinces. Type of coverage and eligibility differs by province.
Chile	●	●	4	Free, universal services are provided for children from birth to age 6. Targeted early childhood education programs are provided to encourage enrollment for vulnerable children, including those with special education needs.
Chinese Taipei	●	●	4	PPE programs are available for children in aboriginal areas.
Czech Republic	○	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Denmark	●	●	5 to 6	Children can receive language support if there is a presumed need for it, as demonstrated based on a language test. In daycare, children at age 3 are screened if there is a presumption that the child may have language deficits or that language development is delayed. It is mandatory for children at age 3 who do not attend daycare to have a language screening.
Egypt	○	●	2	-
England	○	●	4	2-year-olds can receive free early education and childcare if they or their parents meet certain criteria. All children are eligible for PPE programs for children age 3 and older.
Finland	●	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided. However, providing a place in preprimary education free of charge for all students is a statutory duty for municipalities. PPE exists for children with special needs and different languages, but often these children are integrated into groups with all other children.
France	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided. Preprimary education covers children from ages 2-5. 100% of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds and 12% of 2-year-olds attend these programs.
Georgia	●	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Germany	●	●	4	Daycare and child-minding services are called upon to encourage the child's development into a responsible and autonomous member of the community. The provision of education and care is to be adjusted to the individual child's age and developmental stage, linguistic and other capabilities, life situation and interests, and take account of the child's ethnic origin. In terms of pedagogy and organization, the range of services offered should be based on the needs of the other children and their families.
Hong Kong SAR	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are provided. Free quality education policies will be implemented beginning in the 2017/2018 academic year.
Hungary	●	●	4	A recommendation is in effect regarding education in national minority kindergartens. Low income families are given government subsidies.

A dash (–) indicates data not provided.

● Yes
○ No

SOURCE: IEA's Progress in International Reading Literacy Study – PIRLS 2016

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Iran, Islamic Rep. of	○	●	2	A one-month program before starting grade 1 is provided for children of low income families who do not speak Farsi at home.
Ireland	○	●	3	The Early Start Programme is a one-year intervention scheme offered in selected schools in disadvantaged areas. The objective of the program is to tackle educational disadvantage. Early Start teachers are qualified primary school teachers, supported by a childcare worker. There are also funded preschools for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
Israel	○	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided, but PPE is universal, provided, and accessible to all 3-year-old children, regardless of socioeconomic, cultural, or ethnic background.
Italy	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are provided for preprimary education (for children aged 3 and older) but are not provided for children under 3.
Kazakhstan	●	●	2	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Kuwait	○	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Latvia	●	●	6	Targeted early childhood education programs are provided for minority students, special education students, and minority special education students.
Lithuania	●	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Macao SAR	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided, but free compulsory education in Macao includes 3 years of kindergarten.
Malta	●	●	5	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Morocco	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided. There are limited initiatives from the state and NGOs to provide preschooling activities to specific groups. However, there has been difficulty in generalizing these services.
Netherlands	○	●	3	Free ECE programs are offered for children with a deficiency in language skills between the age of 2.5 and 4. These programs are offered by nurseries or daycare centers. The local authorities decide which children can take part in these programs. The length of the programs differ and are not compulsory.
New Zealand	●	●	5	There is universal funding for all children from 0-5 years who attend Ministry of Education-approved early childhood education services and kōhanga reo. Additional equity funding is also paid to early childhood education services that serve lower socioeconomic and/or isolated communities, enroll children with special needs or children from non-English speaking backgrounds, or support language and cultures other than English (including New Zealand Sign).
Northern Ireland	○	●	1	There are 39 Sure Start projects across Northern Ireland and services are delivered within at least the top 25% most disadvantaged areas, as currently defined by the NI Multiple Deprivation Measures (NIMDM 2010). The Sure Start Developmental Programme for 2-3 Year Olds is provided to those children in their penultimate preschool year who would most benefit from its provision.
Norway (5)	●	●	5	As of 2016, national targeted programs are available for children of migrants and low income families.
Oman	○	○	-	Targeted preprimary education is available in public schools but not private schools.
Poland	-	-	-	-
Portugal	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Qatar	●	●	2	Early childhood programs (ECED) are available in Qatar. All public schools adopt a targeted certified curriculum. There are many schools in the private sector that adopt different curricula. Preschool education programs (PPE) are available in the public and private schools in Qatar. Public schools adopt a unified targeted curriculum.
Russian Federation	●	●	4 or more	There are preschool programs for children with disabilities. There are also programs with developmental priorities (e.g., physical development, artistic development, and aesthetic development).
Saudi Arabia	●	●	4 or more	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.

● Yes
○ No

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Singapore	○	●	4	In addition to outreach programs to facilitate the enrollment of all children in preprimary education, Singapore also provides financial support for PPE and ECED programs for lower and middle-income families. All children enrolled in childcare centers (which also provide ECED programs) receive a government subsidy, with working mothers receiving a higher subsidy.
Slovak Republic	○	●	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Slovenia	●	●	4	Within the kindergarten curriculum, implementation of the program is adjusted to meet the capacities of the children.
South Africa	○	○	3	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Spain	○	●	3	The country provides targeted ECED coverage with copayment. For admission in these programs, certain requirements apply, such as family income, proximity, and other siblings in the family. PPE coverage is free and universal.
Sweden	●	●	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided, but preschool programs are provided for all children free of charge from the age of 3. Children with a native language other than Swedish are given the opportunity to develop their native language as well as Swedish in preschool.
Trinidad and Tobago	○	●	2	The Ministry of Education utilizes the Basic Needs Index along with data on where schools are located across the country to determine which communities are unserved and underserved. Establishment of early childhood education centers is guided by this information.
United Arab Emirates	○	●	2	Programs for children ages 3 and older are available for free in government schools for UAE citizens. Expatriates can attend programs in private schools.
United States	Varies by state	Varies by state	4	The United States offers federal funding, allocated to local agencies, to target low-income children through the Head Start program. Children in families with income below the federal poverty line, children eligible for public assistance, homeless children, and foster children are eligible for Head Start services.

Benchmarking Participants—Responses Pertain to Benchmarking Provinces/Regions/Emirates/States

Buenos Aires, Argentina	○	○	4	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Ontario, Canada	○	●	2	Subsidized child care for children 3 years and under is provided for low-income families. Pre-primary education programs are available for all children through the public school system.
Quebec, Canada	●	●	4	More than 185 targeted PPE classes are expected in the 2016-2017 academic year.
Denmark (3)	●	●	5 to 6	Children can receive language support if there is a presumed need for it, as demonstrated based on a language test. In daycare, children at age 3 are screened if there is a presumption that the child may have language deficits or that language development is delayed. It is mandatory for children at age 3 who do not attend daycare to have a language screening.
Norway (4)	●	●	5	As of 2016, national targeted programs are available for children of migrants and low income families.
Moscow City, Russian Fed.	●	●	4 to 6	There are programs with developmental priorities (e.g., physical development and aesthetic development). There are also programs for children with disabilities.
Eng/Afr/Zulu - RSA (5)	○	○	3	There is great variation in the provision of PPE. Targeted coverage of early childhood education only extends to Grade R, the year before compulsory schooling in Grade 1. The government has stipulated that coverage should be universal in that grade.
Andalusia, Spain	○	●	3	Nearly 50% of 3-year-olds attend ECED programs, and PPE coverage is universal.
Madrid, Spain	○	●	3	The country provides targeted ECED coverage with copayment. For admission in these programs, certain requirements apply, such as family income, proximity, and other siblings in the family. PPE coverage is free and universal.
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	○	●	2	Targeted early childhood education programs are not provided.
Dubai, United Arab Emirates	●	●	3	Programs for children ages 3 and older are available for free in government schools for UAE citizens. Expatriates can attend programs in private schools at their own expense.

● Yes
○ No

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