



APPENDIX A

GENERAL INFORMATION !!!

This appendix is intended to provide **general information about pre-K** for toolkit readers who know very little about the topic. Below, we provide links for a beginner's study of current information about pre-K, both nationally and in Mississippi.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PRE-K

New America Foundation

The New America Foundation's website offers a clear, simple write-up about pre-K.

New America Foundation. 2018. "Pre-K." Accessed April 13. <https://www.newamerica.org/education-policy/policy-explainers/early-ed-prek-12/pre-k/>.

RESEARCH ABOUT PRE-K

Southern Regional Education Board

Pre-K Benefits features a summary of some of the most recent, high-quality research studies pertaining to the benefits of pre-K programs for children.

Durrance, Samantha. 2018. *Pre-K Benefits: 2018 Update*. Research report, Atlanta, GA: Southern Regional Education Board. Accessed April 13, 2018. https://www.sreb.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/research_snapshot_pre-k_march_2018.pdf.

Brookings Institute

The Current State of Scientific Knowledge on Pre-Kindergarten Effects provides a comprehensive description of the pre-K landscape in America today. In addition, the report presents some of the most prevalent issues and challenges in early education along with a summary of the research findings pertaining to each issue.

Brookings Institute. 2017. *The Current State of Scientific Knowledge on Pre-Kindergarten Effects*. Research Report, Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institute. Accessed April 13, 2018. https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/duke_prekstudy_final_4-4-17_hires.pdf.

Mississippi First

The State of Pre-K in Mississippi 2014-2015 quantifies pre-K access—whether public or private—in every Mississippi community. Additionally, the report includes detailed programmatic and contextual information about pre-K programs and the communities they serve. It is released every three years.

Canter, Rachel, and Angela Bass. 2017. *The State of Pre-K in Mississippi 2014-2015*. Research Report, Jackson, MS: Mississippi First. Accessed April 13, 2018. <http://www.mississippifirst.org/education-policy/pre-kindergarten/msf-prek-publications/state-pre-k-mississippi-2014-2015/>.

The National Institute for Early Education Research

The State of Preschool is an annual publication that tracks the funding, access, and policies of state-funded pre-K programs. In addition, NIEER identifies 10 research-based program standards linked to highly effective programs and ranks each state-funded program across the nation according to these 10 standards.

Barnett, Steven W., Allison H. Friedman-Krauss, G.G. Weisenfeld, Michelle Horowitz, Richard Kasmin, and James H. Squires. 2018. *The State of Preschool 2017*. Research report, New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research, Rutgers University. Accessed April 18, 2018. <http://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks>.



STATE AND FEDERAL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OFFICES

Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood

The Office of Early Education at the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) provides regulatory guidance for pre-K programs implemented in public school settings. Additionally, they provide resources for families and providers to prepare children to be ready for kindergarten. MDE disseminates federal and state funds for early childhood programs in Mississippi.

Website: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ESE/EC>

Mississippi Head Start Collaboration Office

The Mississippi Head Start Collaboration Office is located in the Office of the Governor. The office develops collaborative partnerships with early childhood and family service providers, educators, advocates, and agencies statewide.

Website: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/programs/mississippi-head-start-collaboration-office>

Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Early Childhood Care and Development

The Division of Early Childhood Care and Development at the Mississippi Department of Human Services tracks the licensed childcare services available to young children in Mississippi communities. Additionally, they administer the Child Care Development Fund program, which provides assistance to working families in need of childcare services.

Website: <http://www.mdhs.ms.gov/early-childhood-care-development/>

United States Department of Education, Office of Early Learning

The Office of Early Learning at the United States Department of Education is charged with supporting the department's early learning initiatives and its goal of improving the health, socio-emotional, and cognitive outcomes for children from birth to third grade. The office is also responsible for the discretionary grant programs exclusively focused on early learning.

Website: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/earlylearning/index.html>

PRE-K ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

Mississippi First

Mississippi First is a state-based policy and advocacy 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Mississippi First has been an advocate for early childhood education in Mississippi since our founding in 2008. The organization advocates for the expansion of high-quality, state-funded pre-K and tracks pre-K access and quality in the state.

Website: www.mississippifirst.org/education-policy/pre-kindergarten/

Alliance for Early Success

The Alliance for Early Success brings early education leaders together in innovative ways to advance state policies leading to improved health, learning, and economic outcomes for young children, starting at birth and ending at age eight.

Website: www.earlysuccess.org

First Five Years Fund

The First Five Years Fund advances federal investment in quality early childhood education for disadvantaged children from birth to age five. Additionally, it provides policymakers, advocates, and the public with the research and information necessary to make informed investments in quality early childhood development.

Website: www.ffyf.org