

State	Number of Active and Reserve Personnel	Eligibility					Military Status
		Pre-K for All or No Eligibility Req.	Low income	Other Risk Factors	Locally Determined Eligibility Req.	No Program	
Alabama	38,013	•					
Alaska	22,021					•	
Arizona	34,348		•				
Arkansas	18,469		•	•			Children of military personnel (home or abroad) exempt from all other eligibility requirements.
California	228,311		•	•			
Colorado	40,278		•	•	•		
Connecticut	14,372		•	•			
Delaware	8,928		•	•	•		Having a parent on “active military duty” is considered a possible factor in determining eligibility. Programs must start their selection process with income-eligible children first and then move on to other eligibility factors. Local programs choose which factors to consider.
DC	22,036	•					
Florida	98,296	•					
Georgia	97,852	•					
Hawaii	53,571					•	
Idaho	10,018					•	
Illinois	51,608			•	•	•	Having a parent on active military duty is considered a factor in determining priority for enrollment.
Indiana	20,324					•	
Iowa	13,737		•	•			
Kansas	28,776		•	•			
Kentucky	47,488		•	•			
Louisiana	38,588		•	•	•		Having a parent on active (“deployed or away from family”) military duty is considered a factor in determining eligibility for one of the state’s pre-k programs (Louisiana 8(g)).
Maine	8,195	•					
Maryland	42,203		•	•			
Massachusetts	18,412		•	•			Children of a “deployed military” or National Guard (e.g. activated to a combat zone, hazardous duty zone, or venue for preparation for deployment to a combat or hazardous duty zone) parent are prioritized for access to financial assistance for child care. <sup>1</sup>
Michigan	19,901		•	•	•		Having a parent on active (“deployed or away from family”) military duty is considered a factor in determining eligibility. Local programs choose which eligibility factors to consider. <sup>2</sup>
Minnesota	20,385		•	•			

Mississippi	33,768					•	
Missouri	37,465	•					
Montana	8,376					•	
Nebraska	14,606		•	•			
Nevada	13,838	•					
New Hampshire	4,852					•	
New Jersey	24,493		•				
New Mexico	17,606			•			
New York	51,080	•					
North Carolina	122,639		•	•			Children having a parent on active military duty, including activated National Guard or mobilized reserve personnel, or a parent that was injured or killed in the line of duty are considered eligible for pre-k.
North Dakota	12,457					•	
Ohio	36,833		•				
Oklahoma	39,428	•					
Oregon	11,557		•				
Pennsylvania	39,701		•	•	•		Having a parent on active military duty is considered a possible factor in determining eligibility. Programs must start their selection process with income eligible children first and then move on to other eligibility factors. Local programs choose which factors to consider.
Rhode Island	7,875					•	
South Carolina	56,571		•	•	•		
South Dakota	8,690					•	
Tennessee	22,180		•	•			After prioritizing children eligible for free- or reduced-price lunches and children exhibiting other risk factors, having a parent on active military duty can be considered a factor in determining eligibility, depending on local requirements.
Texas	165,238		•	•			Having a parent on active military duty confers eligibility to the student. "Active duty" covers any member of the Active Duty <sup>1</sup> forces or any mobilized or activated National Guard or Reserve unit. Children of a parent who was killed or wounded while on duty are included. If a parent's status changes mid-school year, students remain eligible through the school year.
Utah	17,303					•	
Vermont	4,176		•	•	•		Having a parent on active military duty can be considered a factor in determining eligibility.
Virginia	163,418			•	•		Having a parent on active military duty <sup>3</sup> is potentially a factor in determining eligibility, depending on local

							requirements.
Washington	74,095		•	•			
West Virginia	9,702			•	•		
Wisconsin	17,822			•			
Wyoming	6,204					•	

Legend: States highlighted in [orange](#) have universal pre-k in practice, with no eligibility requirements.  
States highlighted in [blue](#) have special eligibility allowances for the children of military personnel.

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<sup>1</sup> In a two parent family where one of the parents is in the military and is deployed or activated, the second parent must be participating in at least one EEC approved activity for at least 20 hours per week to be eligible for part time care or 30 hours per week to be eligible for full time care, (e.g. seeking employment, working, in an education or training program, or parent or child has a documented special need).

<sup>2</sup> If a parent/guardian is an active member of the U.S. Armed Forces, certain pay can be excluded from family gross income, possibly allowing the family to qualify as low-income. Grantees are advised that the same condition or concern should not be counted twice.

<sup>3</sup> Many states do not explicitly define “active military duty” or either allow local programs to develop their own definition. These states include Virginia, Delaware, and Tennessee.