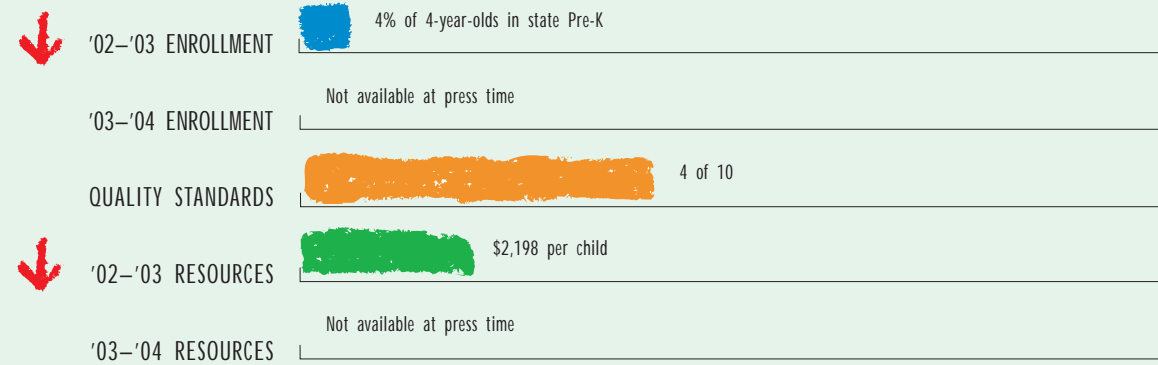


Missouri



↑ Up from '01-'02 ↓ Down from '01-'02 = No change from '01-'02

The Missouri Preschool Project (MPP) was established in 1998 as part of the Early Child Development Education and Care fund, which is supported by gaming revenues. The program serves children who will be 3 or 4 years of age by August 1 of the program year. Since 1999, MPP funds have been available to public schools, Head Start centers, private child care centers, and family child care homes through a competitive grant process. Programs are required to operate for five days per week and for a minimum of nine months per year. All children are eligible to enroll, but programs receive priority funding if they provide services for children from low-income families or with special needs.

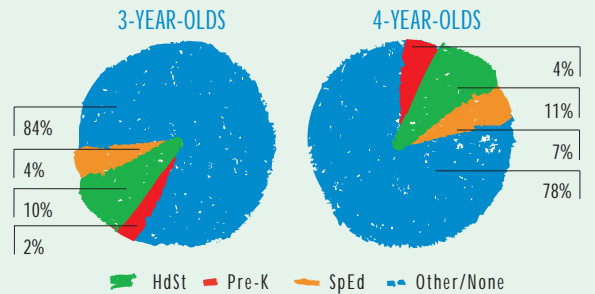
In an effort to increase the quality of preschool programs, MPP requires each program to reserve a minimum of 10 percent of its grant to provide professional development opportunities for teachers in other licensed programs within the same community. Programs awarded in the past three years receive on-site technical assistance, and teachers in these programs have the opportunity to attend full-day training programs four times per year.



ACCESS

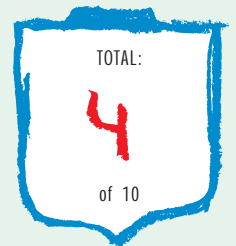
Total state program enrollment	4,888
School districts that offer state program	39%
Income requirement	None ¹
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ³
Special education enrollment	8,014
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	15,016
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

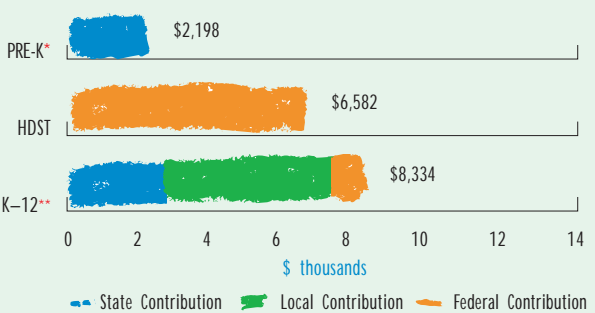
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA (public), CDA (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training req.	License and certificate in EC or ECSE, or 4-yr CD degree (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in Pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	HSD + voc. cert. in ECE (public); HSD (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service req. - 12 clock hours and 2 full-day trainings ⁴		At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	20		
4-year-olds	20		
Screening/referral requirements	None	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Required support services	None ⁵	At least 1 service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirement	Varies ⁶	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$10,744,988
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,198
State spending per 3-year-old	\$52
State spending per 4-year-old	\$95

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

Data are for the '02-'03 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Programs are funded through a competitive process and receive extra points in the scoring system for serving children with special needs or from low-income families.
² Each program may choose to apply as either a full-day program (6.5 hours) or a half-day program (3 hours). Programs awarded in 1998-1999 had the option to operate 4 days per week with the fifth day for home visiting. This practice is being phased out and most programs now operate 5 days per week.
³ Programs must operate a minimum of 9 months, but may choose to operate for up to 12 months.
⁴ Teachers are required to attend two full-day training programs at minimum, and receive on-site technical assistance. All professional development opportunities paid for through MPP funds are additional hours beyond the 12 clock hours required for licensure.
⁵ Parent conferences are optional. Two hundred MPP programs involved a total of 4,109 families in some type of conference. In addition, MPP programs offered 1,579 parent involvement activities in which 3,613 families participated, although the provision of such services is optional.
⁶ Child care licensing requires full-day programs to offer lunch and two snacks. Half-day programs must offer either a morning or afternoon snack.