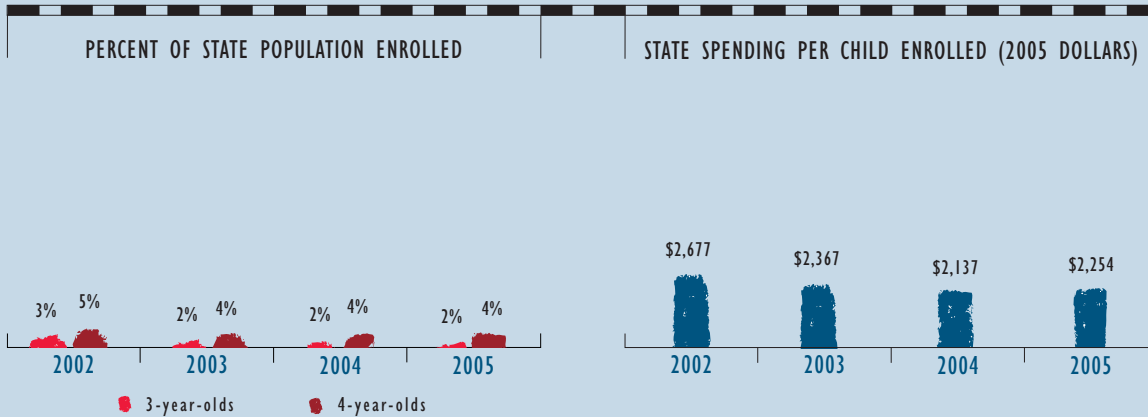


Missouri



In 1998, the Early Childhood Development Education and Care Fund provided for the establishment of the Missouri Preschool Project (MPP). MPP funds are supported by gaming revenues and have been distributed through competitive grants since 1999. Public schools, Head Start, private child care centers, and group child care homes may receive these funds directly from the state or through subcontracts. While there are no specified enrollment criteria, programs receive priority funding through the competitive grant process if they serve children with special needs or from low-income households. Grantees employ sliding payment scales chosen at the local level. MPP provides services to children at ages 3 and 4.

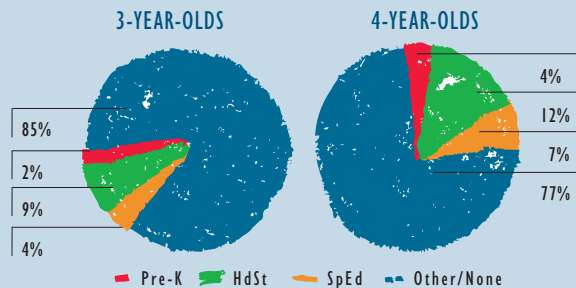
Each program is required to reserve at least 10 percent of its grant to provide professional development opportunities for teachers employed within the same community by other licensed programs. Recently established programs receive on-site technical assistance and additional opportunities for teacher training.



ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	-----	4,707
School districts that offer state program	-----	26% ¹
Income requirement	-----	None ²
Hours of operation	-----	Determined locally ³
Operating schedule	-----	Determined locally ³
Special education enrollment	-----	8,398
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	14,804
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	0

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



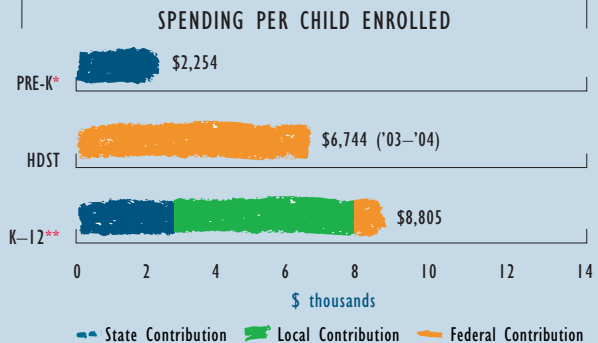
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	----- Comprehensive ⁴	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	----- BA (public), CDA (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	----- 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	----- HSD + voc. cert. in ECE (public), HSD (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	----- 12 clock hours and 2 full-day trainings ⁵	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	----- 20		
4-year-olds	----- 20		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	----- 1:10		
4-year-olds	----- 1:10		
Screening/referral and support services	----- None	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	----- Depend on length of program day ⁶	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	----- None ⁷	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$10,609,869
Local match required?	-----	No
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$2,254
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$54
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$92



* 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 '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- In addition, programs are offered by 56 private providers and 15 non-profit providers.
- Programs are funded through a competitive process and receive extra points for serving children with special needs or from low-income families.
- Programs apply as either a full-day (6.5 hour) or half-day (3 hour) program. Programs awarded in 1998-1999 had the option of operating 4 days per week with the fifth day for home visiting, but this practice is being phased out. Programs are required to operate for a minimum of 9 months, but may choose to operate year-round.
- Physical Development, Health, and Safety standards were added in 2004, making Missouri's early learning standards comprehensive.
- Teachers are required to attend at least two full-day training programs and receive on-site technical assistance.
- Child care licensing requires full-day programs to offer lunch and two snacks and half-day programs to offer morning or afternoon snacks.
- Annual final report monitoring is not required; however, department supervisors visit once every 5 years.