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%
Income requirement - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - No
Hours of operation - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Determined locally
Operating schedule - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Determined locally
Special education enrollment - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 8,398
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03–'04 - - - - - 14,804
State-funded Head Start enrollment - - - - - - - - - - - - - 0

**QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST**

1. Early learning standards - - - - - - - - - - - - - Comprehensive
2. Teacher degree - - - - - - - - - - BA (public), CDA (nonpublic)
3. Teacher specialized training - License and certificate in EC or ECSE, or 4-yr CD degree (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)
4. Assistant teacher degree - - - - - - - - - - HSD + voc. cert. in ECE (public), HSD (nonpublic)
5. Teacher in-service - - - 12 clock hours and 2 full-day trainings
6. Maximum class size
   - 3-year-olds - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 20
   - 4-year-olds - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 20
7. Staff-child ratio
   - 3-year-olds - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1:10
   - 4-year-olds - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1:10
8. Screening/referral
   and support services - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - None
9. Meals - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Depend on length of program day
10. Monitoring - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -?

**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

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* 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.

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1. In addition, programs are offered by 54 private providers and 15 non-profit providers.
2. Programs are funded through a competitive process and receive extra points for serving children with special needs or from low-income families.
3. 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.
5. Teachers are required to attend at least two full-day training programs and receive on-site technical assistance.
6. Child care licensing requires full-day programs to offer lunch and two snacks and half-day programs to offer morning or afternoon snacks.
7. Annual final report monitoring is not required; however, department supervisors visit once every 3 years.