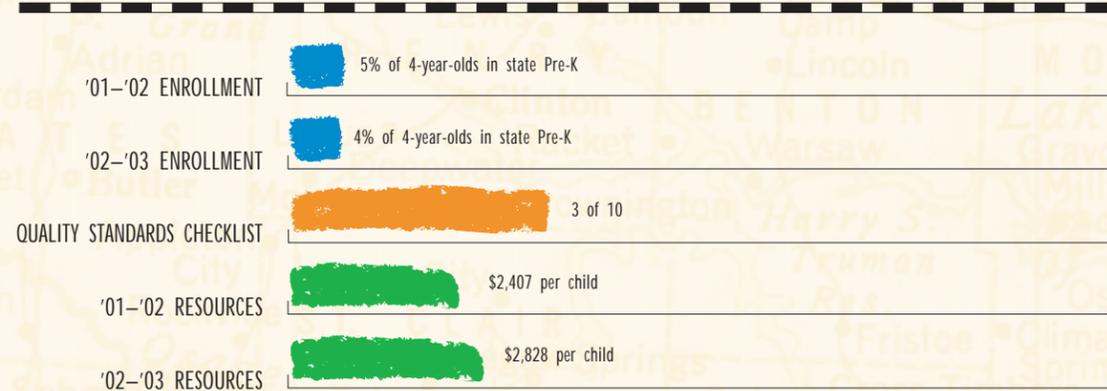


# Missouri



The Missouri Preschool Project was established as part of the Early Childhood Development, Education and Care (ECDEC) fund in 1998. The state began making prekindergarten funds available on a competitive basis in 1999. The ECDEC fund is supported by gaming revenues. Prekindergarten programs funded through this project are operated by public and private schools, nonprofit agencies, and for-profit agencies. Children who will be 3 or 4 years of age by August 1 of the program year are eligible to participate. The state does not specify any other eligibility criteria, but programs serving large numbers of low-income children and children with special needs receive priority for funding.

A commitment to teacher quality has been implemented by requiring that 10 percent of program funding be used for professional development. Further, new programs can obtain technical assistance throughout the year.

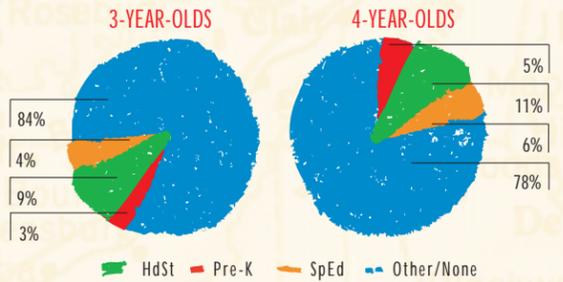
The Missouri Preschool Project served 1,694 3-year-olds and 3,150 4-year-olds in 2002–2003 and received \$13,700,000 in state funds.



## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	6,232
School districts that offer state program	29% <sup>1</sup>
Income requirement	None <sup>2</sup>
Hours of operation	Determined locally <sup>3</sup>
Operating schedule	Determined locally <sup>4</sup>
Special education enrollment	7,058
Federally-funded Head Start enrollment	15,334
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



## QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

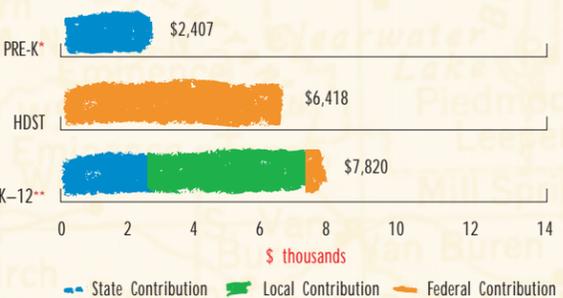
POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Curriculum standards	Not comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree requirement	BA (public), CDA (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training requirement	EC certification (public), meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree requirement	HSD + voc. cert. (public), HSD (nonpublic) <sup>5</sup>	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service requirement	12 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input 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 requirements	None	Vision, hearing, and health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family support service requirements	None	At least 1 service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meal requirements	None	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>



## RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	\$15,000,000
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,407
State spending per 3-year-old	\$84
State spending per 4-year-old	\$118

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 '01-'02 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- Pre-K is also offered in 93 nonpublic schools.
- Programs funded through competitive grants receive additional points through the grant scoring system for serving children with special needs or from low-income families.
- Most programs are full-day.
- Most programs operate for the academic year.
- Assistant teachers in public schools must have a high school diploma plus a vocational certificate in early child care and education.