

First Five Years Fund  
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# MISSOURI

FEDERAL AND STATE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION INVESTMENT

States across the nation are leading the way to ensure more children—especially those from low-income families—have access to high-quality early learning and care from birth through age five. And much of the progress at the state and local level has been made possible by strong partnerships with the federal government aimed at expanding access, increasing quality, and more. In Missouri (MO), over 58,000 children have access to quality early learning and care through state and federal funding. This abbreviated overview provides a glimpse of the early childhood education opportunities that exist in Missouri, including those made possible with federal funding in fiscal year 2015.

## EVERY YEAR:

1

State Pre-K Serves

4,000+  
CHILDREN

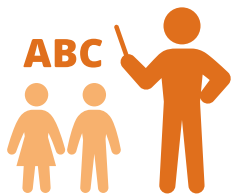
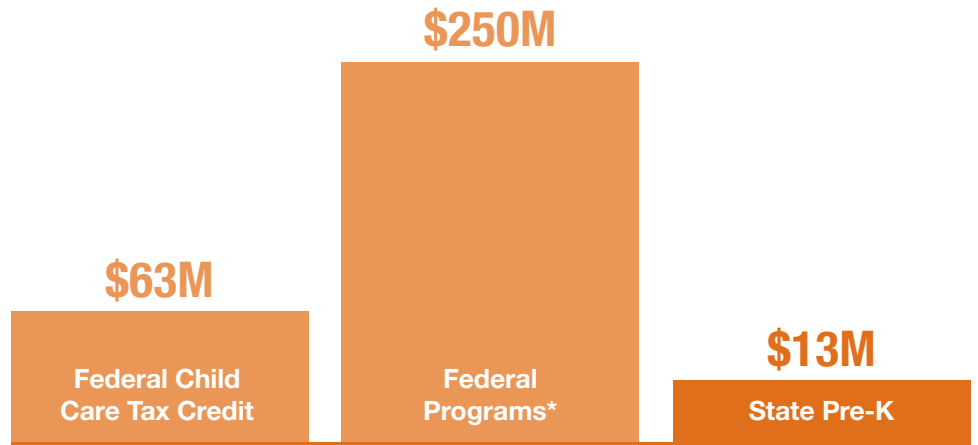
2

Head Start and  
Early Head Start Serve

16,000+  
CHILDREN

## FEDERAL AND STATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDING FY15

\*Federal programs include: Head Start, Early Head Start, MIECHV, Early Head Start — Child Care Partnerships, Child Care and Development Fund.



58,000+

Over 58,000 kids benefit from federal and state programs.\*\*

\*\*Federal and state programs include State Pre-K, Head Start and Early Head Start, MIECHV, and the Child Care and Development Fund. MIECHV figures include parents and children served.



1,200+

The Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program supports over 1,200 voluntary home visits to new parents.



\$9,100

Center-based care costs approximately \$9,100 per child.

# A TIMELINE OF STATE LEADERSHIP: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN MISSOURI

1994

Missouri introduces Project REACH (Rural Early Childhood) to support select rural counties enhance the quality of early care and education.

2005

MPP establishes grantees must utilize lead teachers who have a four year college degree in child development or an Early Childhood Teacher Certification.

2014

Missouri adopts Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) as a uniform child assessment instrument.

1998

The Missouri Preschool Project (MPP) begins serving general education children who will attend kindergarten the following fall.

2009

MPP programs begin providing annual nutrition, health, and developmental screening to all enrollees.

2015

MPP is offered in 29.6% of state school districts. In these districts, 95% of children are enrolled in programs operated by public schools.



**“Our achievement gap starts before school does. Early childhood education is truly an investment and an economic development issue.”**

— MISSOURI STATE REPRESENTATIVE KATHRYN SWAN

## HIGH-QUALITY EARLY EDUCATION: THE MISSOURI PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Missouri Preschool Program (MPP) helps start or expand high-quality early childhood education classrooms across the state of Missouri through competitive bid or grant opportunities. The program directs resources to early childhood education opportunities that are targeted toward children who are one or two years away from being eligible for kindergarten.

- State-funded initiative that provides resources to licensed child care providers, with an emphasis on ensuring full enrollment in all programs.
- MPP is operated in public schools, private child-care centers, and nonprofit agencies. In 2014-2015, MPP was offered in 29.6% of districts in the state, and 95% of children were enrolled in programs that were operated by a public school.
- MPP mandates that grantees must collaborate with local school district(s) to offer Parents as Teachers (PAT) services to families participating in MPP. These services must include, at a minimum, family personal visits, group connections, developmental screenings, and access to the resource network.

## IN MISSOURI, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS SHOWN TO:



Improve Social/  
Emotional Development



Grow Literacy/  
Numeracy Skills



Increase  
Wages



Reduce the Need  
for Spending on  
Special Education