



### Pre-K Resource Kit

The first five years are a period of rapid brain development that sets the stage for later learning. High-quality pre-K programs for three-and four-year-olds capitalize on this window of opportunity to build core skills that kids need to thrive. Use this Resource Kit to help you start your Pre-K search.

<b>Affordable Options:</b> A number of programs offer free or subsidized rates to make pre-K accessible for all families.	
<b>Head Start</b>	<a href="#">Head Start</a> is a Federal program that promotes the school readiness of children from birth to age five from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development.
<b>St. Louis Public Schools</b>	<a href="#">SLPS</a> offers full-day, full-week pre-K free of charge for students up to age 5 living in the SLPS attendance boundary. Use <a href="#">Navigate STL School's Search tool</a> to see the SLPS pre-K options.
<b>Charter Schools</b>	Charter public schools enroll students living in the St. Louis Public School attendance boundary free of charge. Use <a href="#">Navigate STL School's Search tool</a> to see the Charter school pre-K options.
<b>Childcare Subsidies</b>	Missouri offers <a href="#">childcare subsidies</a> for low-income families with children under 13 that can be used for pre-K.
<b>Tuition assistance at Independent Schools</b>	<a href="#">Independent schools</a> may offer tuition assistance for families that qualify.

#### Consider looking up Licensure and Accreditation

- **State licensure** indicates a program meets the basic requirement for safety and instruction. Check a program's licensure status.
- **Accreditation** indicates that a program meets a higher bar for program quality.
  - [Check Missouri Accreditation status here](#)
  - [Check National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\) status accreditation here](#)

#### Additional Services

Many programs offer a range of additional supports that promote family wellbeing and students' readiness to learn. Feel free to check the ones that are a priority for your family as you start your search.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Before and after school care                | <input type="checkbox"/> Connections to social services              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special education services                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical, dental, and mental health services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English as a Second Language (ESL) programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult education programs                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign language instruction                | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks and meals served                     |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                              |

#### Need additional support finding an early childhood program?

- [Contact Child Care Aware Missouri](#)
- [Access NAEYC's resources for families](#)

