

Belief statement

The mission of the Missouri First Steps program is to provide a support and service system designed to improve the family's capacity to enhance children's development and learning, and to increase children's participation in family and community life.

Parent survey responses

"I would recommend First Steps to anyone with a child who may be behind or show signs of disabilities. They have significantly helped in just a few months. I am more understanding and optimistic regarding my child's outcomes and abilities. He has a better situation ... due to First Steps. I am so pleased with the therapists and progress made. I was lost before. Now there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank You!"

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"Since my son started the program, he has improved at an incredible rate, so much so that he may not need the services anymore!"

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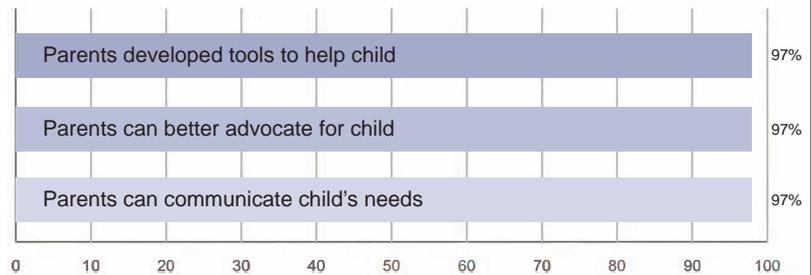
"This is a wonderful program with incredibly caring, genuinely sincere and knowledgeable people. The information and help we have received has been above and beyond what we originally expected. I thoroughly enjoy our visits as does our daughter. We all thank you very much!"

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"What a wonderful program for children who need additional support. Provide more funding to keep the program afloat."

Effective early intervention requires an active partnership that includes involvement by the family and the provider.

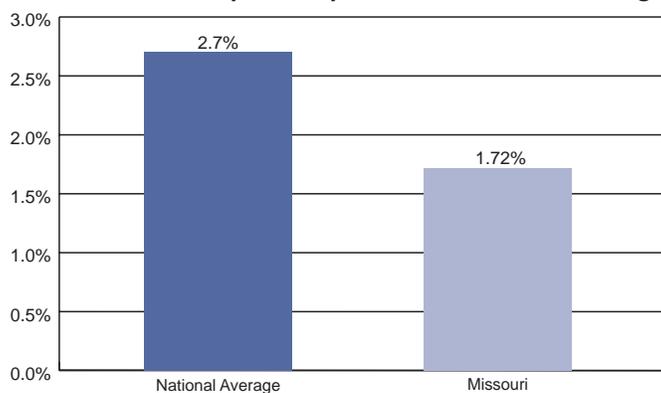
Parent Satisfaction



Source: 2011 Annual First Steps Parent Survey

In Missouri, 98 percent of children in the First Steps program receive services in their own home or in a child care setting with typically developing children.

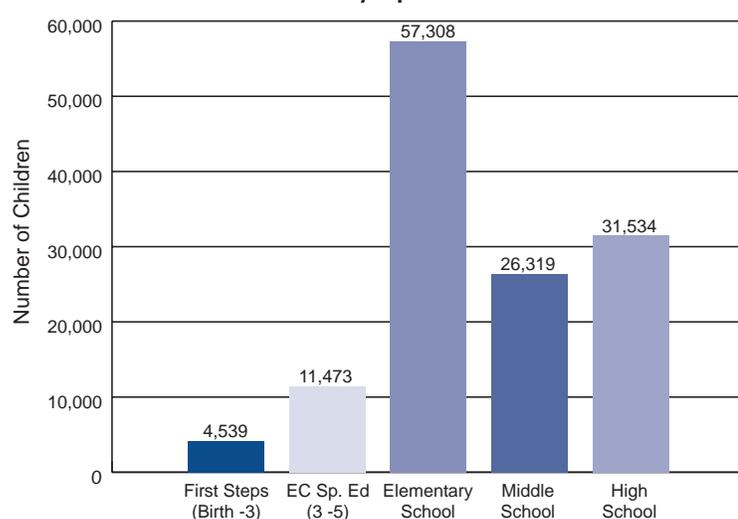
Missouri First Steps Compared to National Average



Sources: National – National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center Part C participation rates; Missouri – Part C, 2010-2011 Annual Performance Report

Missouri is among 16 states that have the narrowest eligibility criteria in the nation. Missouri served 4,539 children through the First Steps program. The chart below shows that the number of children needing special education services increases during the school-age years.

Missouri Children Served by Special Education



Source: December 1, 2010 Child Count, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report

What is the SICC?

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires the Missouri Department of Elementary Education (DESE), as the lead agency, to have in place, a governor-appointed council with the purpose of providing advice and assistance to the Department in the implementation of the state's early intervention system for infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

The Missouri State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) is established in accordance with Federal regulations for IDEA CSR303.141. The SICC is required to report to the governor and secretary of state annually regarding the Missouri Birth to Three program.

SICC activities and priorities *2010-2011*

- Development of the SICC Annual Report to the Governor and Secretary of Education
- Expand the diversity of the Council.
- Establish Council structure to support the work of the First Steps Program.
- Promote awareness and advocacy.
- Coordinate efforts with Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC).
- Provide advice and assistance to MO First Steps program regarding:
 - Strategies for promoting quality and effective practices
 - Team building as best practice for Early Intervention
 - Development of Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) and the Annual Performance Plan (APR)
 - Development of family and provider materials
 - Monitor compliance and financial status of the First Steps Program.

SICC Calendar

Meetings were held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Truman Building, Room 400
Jefferson City, MO

July 9, 2010
October 7-8, 2010
January 14, 2011
April 8, 2011

Upcoming meetings can be found at:
dese.mo.gov/se/sicc/SICCagendasandmeetings.html



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For additional information regarding the activities of the MO State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC), please visit:
dese.mo.gov/se/sicc/