

Details from the Department for Education website

The early years pupil premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years settings to improve the provision that disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-olds receive.

Funding for the financial year 2015 to 2016

From April 2015, you will receive EYPP funding as part of your dedicated schools grant (DSG) allocations.

A [breakdown of the amount of funding you will receive in the 2015 to 2016 financial year](#) is available.

We have based the amount of funding you receive on an estimate of how many hours of state-funded early education the eligible children in your area will take up.

Eligibility

3- and 4-year-olds in state-funded early education will attract EYPP funding if they meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

- their family gets 1 of the following:
 - [Income Support](#)
 - income-based [Jobseeker's Allowance](#)
 - income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
 - support under [part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
 - the guaranteed element of [State Pension Credit](#)
 - [Child Tax Credit](#) (provided they're not also entitled to [Working Tax Credit](#) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
 - [Working Tax Credit](#) run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
 - [Universal Credit](#)
- they have been looked after for 1 day or more
- they have been adopted from care
- they have left care under a special guardianship order or residence order

Children must be eligible for free early education in order to attract EYPP funding. Children become eligible at different points in the year depending on when they turn 3. Details of [the dates when children become eligible](#) are available.

Finding out which children are eligible

You are responsible for checking that individual children meet the eligibility criteria for EYPP. Ask the early years providers in your area to let you know which of the children in their care attract EYPP funding so you can check their eligibility.

Encourage providers to speak to parents. In particular, providers should speak to the parents of children who took up the [early education entitlement for 2-year-olds](#), as most of these children will attract EYPP when they turn 3.

Eligible looked-after children

The [virtual school head \(VSH\)](#) in your local authority will identify the looked-after children who are eligible for EYPP funding. Ask your VSH to let you know who the looked-after children in your area are so that they can be funded for the EYPP. VSHs are responsible for managing EYPP funding in the same way that they are in charge of managing the [school-age pupil premium](#).

Eligibility checks

You need to check children's eligibility once a year.

In most cases you will have to check twice during their 2-year EYPP entitlement:

1. You should first check a child's eligibility when a provider or parent tells you that a child may be eligible.
2. You should check the child's eligibility again in the academic year when the child turns 4. You can decide when to carry out this second year check, but we recommend doing it at the beginning of the academic year in September.

In cases where a child becomes eligible when they are already 4 years old, you will not have to run a second check.

Allocating the funding

You must pass the EYPP funding on to:

- the early years settings who have eligible children
- the relevant VSH

You must fund all state-funded early years providers in your area at 53p per hour per eligible pupil. This means providers will receive over £300 for each eligible 3- or 4-year-old who takes up the full 570 hours of state-funded early education they are entitled to.

You should allocate the funding to each setting based on:

- how many eligible pupils they have
- how many hours of state-funded early years education these children take up

You must not:

- hold back any of this funding
- vary funding rates
- place conditions on the funding