Why support early childhood education?

The early years are the most crucial period of learning in a child’s life.

“Development and learning in the early years is rapid and cumulative – and is the foundation for lifelong progress.”

Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (2015). *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation.*

At birth, 25% of an individual’s brain has developed.

By age 5, 92% of total brain growth has occurred.

High-quality preschool helps prepare children for later success in school and life.

Long-term studies suggest that preschool positively impacts important societal outcomes such as high school graduation, completed years of education, earnings, and reduced crime and teen pregnancy.


Attending preschool is beneficial for all children.

“Quality preschool education can benefit middle-class children as well as disadvantaged children; typically developing children as well as children with special needs; and dual language learners as well as native speakers.”


High-quality preschool can help to close the school readiness gap.

When compared against programs that address parenting behaviors and prenatal exposure to tobacco, other key influences on school readiness, attending preschool at age 4 was the most effective means of increasing the school readiness of children in poverty at age 5.


$4$ in return on investment in early childhood education

Moderate-high income $75$

Low income $48$

Who’s ready for school?