

## High–Quality Early Childhood Education Works

Neuroscientists, economists, psychologists, generals, faith leaders, parents, Republican and Democratic governors, teachers, principals, researchers, state and federal legislators, and business leaders all agree: investing in high–quality early childhood education and early childhood educators will make America brighter, stronger, and more competitive.

Decades of research show the impact of high–quality early learning and the many individual, societal, and economic benefits that stem from investing in early childhood education.

### Did you know?

- 1** The first years of a child’s life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning. <sup>1</sup>
- 2** 9 in 10 parents say that early learning had a positive impact on their children’s emotional development and academic preparation. <sup>2</sup>
- 3** High–quality early childhood programs deliver a return on investment that outpaces average stock market gains. <sup>3</sup>

Yet our country is unable to capitalize on the promise of early learning because we continue to have an underfunded early childhood education system and an unsustainable market in which parents can’t pay any more and educators can’t make any less.

The time is now for a policy and financing system that supports equitable access to affordable, high–quality early childhood education for all children birth through age 8, with a wage and compensation structure that attracts and retains the most talented early childhood educators. Join us to ensure this vision becomes a reality!

**Together, we will show that America is for Early Ed!**

[www.americaforearlyed.org](http://www.americaforearlyed.org)   [@SupportEarlyEd](https://twitter.com/SupportEarlyEd)

America for Early Ed is a national campaign to ensure that candidates and policymakers from both sides of the aisle recognize and embrace early learning as a “must.” America for Early Ed is mobilizing the early childhood profession and its allies to advocate at the local, state and federal levels for an increased and sustainable investment in early childhood education.

#### Sources

<sup>1</sup> Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University. <http://bit.ly/2winTrx>

<sup>2</sup> “Growing the Demand for Quality” a survey conducted by NAEYC, with help from a bipartisan research team of FM3 (D) and Public Opinion Strategies (R).

<sup>3</sup> The Heckman Equation. <http://bit.ly/2mFI3Jf>



## Take Action for High-Quality Early Childhood Education

You understand what happens when children have access to high-quality early learning settings with supported, skilled, and knowledgeable teachers. And you understand that parents shouldn't have to choose between affordability and quality, any more than educators should have to subsist on poverty-level wages in order to subsidize the costs of care.

You know what a comprehensive public investment could do to address affordability, increase quality, expand access, and invest in early childhood education professionals. And it is because of your knowledge that we need you to join America for Early Ed and help us mobilize support from voters and policymakers to create better opportunities for children, families, and educators.

### Here's How You Can Ensure #ECEWins



**Mobilize your assets.** You are a member of an extended personal and professional community and network. Commit to talking about the importance of high-quality early learning across these networks, as you go about your daily life. And commit to working together, in your community, so that access to high-quality early learning becomes a reality for all children.



**Share your personal stories.** Stories are your most powerful advocacy tool. They personalize your efforts and help policymakers understand what happens when policies touch the lives of people in this country. You can make a difference when you share the impacts high-quality early learning—or the lack of it—has had on your life and those around you.



**Add your voice.** You know what is at stake if we don't invest in children. As a trusted member of your community, on par with firefighters and nurses<sup>1</sup>, your voice needs to be heard in the spaces and places where conversations about early childhood education are happening.

### Get Involved at [AmericaforEarlyEd.org](http://AmericaforEarlyEd.org)

America for Early Ed is a national campaign to ensure that candidates and policymakers from both sides of the aisle recognize and embrace early learning as a "must." America for Early Ed is mobilizing the early childhood profession and its allies to advocate at the local, state and federal levels for an increased and sustainable investment in early childhood education.

Together we are America for Early Ed | [www.americaforearlyed.org](http://www.americaforearlyed.org)   [@SupportEarlyEd](https://twitter.com/SupportEarlyEd)

#### Sources

<sup>1</sup> Early Childhood Educators: Advancing the Profession," opinion research conducted by NAEYC, with help from bipartisan research team FM3 (D) and Public Opinion Strategies (R). <http://bit.ly/28OAd8D>