



States across the nation are leading the way to ensure more children—especially those from low-income families—have access to high-quality early learning and care from birth through age five. And much of the progress at the state and local level has been made possible by strong partnerships with the federal government aimed at expanding access, increasing quality, and more. In Alabama (AL), over 53,000 children have access to quality early learning and care through state and federal funding. This abbreviated overview provides a glimpse of the early childhood education opportunities that exist in Alabama, including those made possible with federal funding in fiscal year 2015.

EVERY YEAR:

State Pre-K Serves

7,000+ CHILDREN

2

Head Start and Early Head Start Serve

> 17,000+ CHILDREN

FEDERAL AND STATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDING FY15

*Federal programs include: Head Start, Early Head Start, MIECHV, Early Head Start — Child Care Partnerships, Child Care and Development Fund.

\$213M

\$53M

Federal Child Care Tax Credit Federal Programs* **\$38M**

State Pre-K



53,000+

Over 53,000 kids benefit from federal and state programs.**

**Federal and state programs include State Pre-K, Head Start and Early Head Start, MIECHV, and the Child Care and Development Fund. MIECHV figures include parents and children served.



4,000+

The Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program supports over 4,000 voluntary home visits to new parents.



\$5,600

Center-based care costs approximately \$5,600 per child.

A TIMELINE OF STATE LEADERSHIP: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN ALABAMA

2000

Alabama establishes First Class Pre-K: the Alabama Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (FCVPK). 2011

Alabama School Readiness Alliance launches a business-led Pre-K Task Force.

2014

Alabama receives a Preschool Development Grant (PDG) to expand pre-K across the state to high-risk areas.



2007

First Class Pre-K is named the nation's best for quality.



Alabama School Readiness Alliance and Pre-K Task Force embark on 10-year campaign to fully fund Alabama's First Class Pre-K.



"First Class PreK supports a strong foundation for school success and school readiness—and most importantly for our state, our families, and our future success of our children—it is closing the achievement gap for our most vulnerable children."

— ALABAMA GOVERNOR ROBERT BENTLEY

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES EARLY HEAD START-CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

- Alabama's Department of Human Resources' (DHR) Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (Partnership) is made up of seven partnerships among existing Head Start programs and a partnership with Auburn University to build the capacity among a network of licensed family child care providers. Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership initiative (EHS-CCP) is a competitive grant opportunity to support Early Head Start grantees that partner with child care providers. Through thoughtful partnerships, providers combine funds and services to better meet the needs of low-income children and their families.
- Alabama's Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership consists of 20 childcare centers, 61 family childcare homes, and Auburn University.
- Alabama's EHS-CCP provides assistance to children receiving CCDF subsidies, teen mothers, and families challenged by child abuse and neglect, and homelessness.
- The Partnership serves 14 counties with the greatest need, as well as eight additional counties with particular needs.
- The Partnership provides Alabama with \$8 million in awards for 566 participating children.

IN ALABAMA, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS SHOWN TO:



Improve Social/ Emotional Development



Grow Literacy/ Numeracy Skills



Increase Wages



Reduce the Need for Spending on Special Education