

**First Five Years Fund**  
www.ffyf.org



# WASHINGTON

FEDERAL AND STATE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION INVESTMENT

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 Washington (WA), over 70,000 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 Washington, including those made possible with federal funding in fiscal year 2015.

## EVERY YEAR:

1

State Pre-K Serves

**10,000+  
CHILDREN**

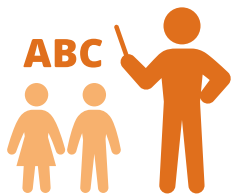
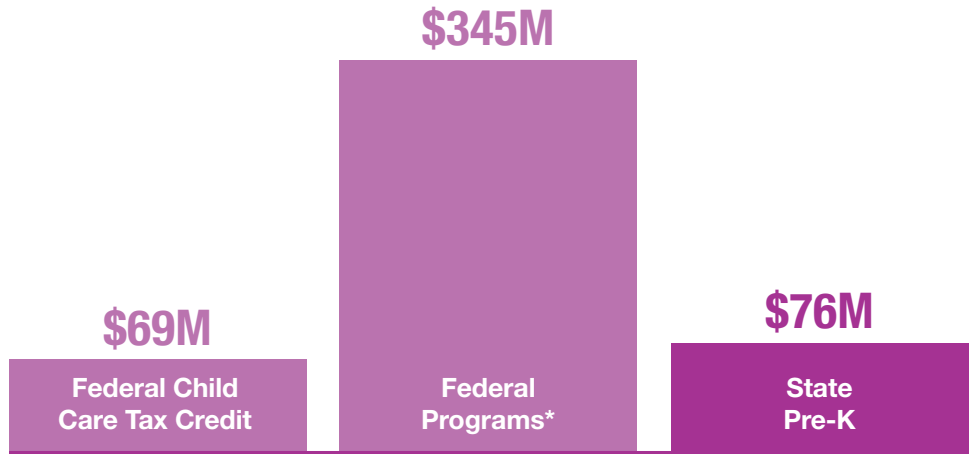
2

Head Start and  
Early Head Start Serve

**12,000+  
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.



**70,000+**

Over 70,000 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.



**2,000+**

The Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program supports over 2,000 voluntary home visits to new parents.



**\$13,100**

Center-based care costs approximately \$13,100 per child.

# A TIMELINE OF STATE LEADERSHIP: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN WASHINGTON

1985

The Washington State Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is created to prepare three- and four-year-olds from low-income families for success in school and in life.

2006

WA funds a new cabinet level agency named the Department of Early Learning and launches a public-private partnership called Thrive by Five Washington.

2010

The Educare Learning network launches a new school in Seattle.

1995

Early Head Start is established in Washington state.

2010

WA completes a statewide home visiting needs assessment and is subsequently awarded \$1.3 billion in formula funds to support home visiting programs.

2016

WA invests a total of \$97 million in ECEAP, an increase of more than \$20 million from the previous year, which leads to the creation of an additional 1,600 new slots.



**“Without a doubt, early learning helps shape a child’s development, which sets them on a path for future success.”**

— WASHINGTON U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS

## HIGH-QUALITY EARLY EDUCATION: EDUCARE CENTER

- Educare is a network of high-quality early childhood education programs across America serving low-income children from birth through age five through public-private partnerships in which funding and governance includes the local schools, Head Start and Early Head Start, private philanthropy, and other community and private sector support.
- Educare Seattle serves 156 children from birth to age five, and their families, to prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond.
- Educare Seattle is the only school in the Pacific Northwest in the Educare Learning Network.
- The school offers a strong dual-language program for English-language learners that supports the development of children’s skills in English and their home language.
- Educare Seattle offers professional development for early learning and K-3 educators. The school also offers internships and practicums for early childhood education students from local colleges and universities.

## IN WASHINGTON, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS SHOWN TO:



Improve Social/  
Emotional Development



Grow Literacy/  
Numeracy Skills



Increase  
Wages



Reduce the Need for  
Spending on Special  
Education