Florida

Research shows that
DURING THE FIRST YEARS OF A CHILD'S LIFE:

More than 1 million new neural connections form every second

Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain

The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities

Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd grade reading achievement

Florida
DEMOGRAPHICS

639,560	Children Under Age 3
1,356,788	Children Under Age 6
220,358	Children Under Age 6 Living in Poverty
896,165	Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
32.9%	Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
16.7%	Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

High-Quality Early Education Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce
LOW WAGES UNDERMINE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Florida Comparative Median Annual Workforce Earnings

Child Care Teacher $29,360

Preschool Teacher $30,900

Head Start Teacher $35,573

Kindergarten Teacher $55,120

Elementary Teacher $56,850

Many child care workers qualify for SNAP due to low wages

SNAP

$33,576
Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three.

Hair Stylist $33,910

Nail Technician $33,480

Telemarketer $34,910

Fitness Trainer $39,110

Fast Food Worker $27,480

State of the
EARLY EDUCATION WORKFORCE

High Turnover
Average turnover across child care programs is

65%
higher
than in other industries

Low Wages
POVERTY LEVEL $25,820

$29,360
Average annual wage for child care staff, barely above the federal poverty level for a family of 3

Building blocks for
HIGH-QUALITY EARLY EDUCATION

Competitive wages to attract and retain high-quality staff

Well-trained and educated workforce

A stimulating and supportive **learning environment**

Promoting **brain development** in a child's earliest years

CED