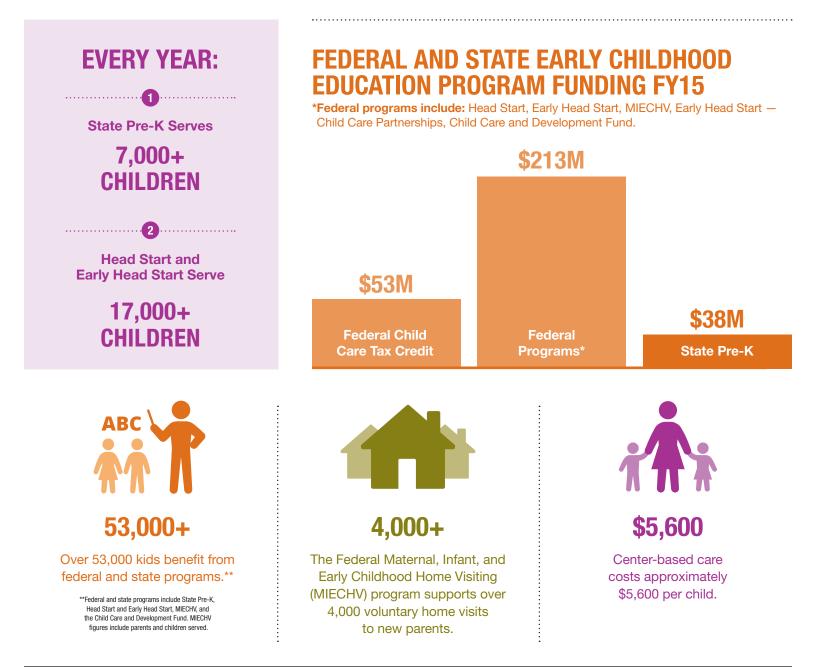


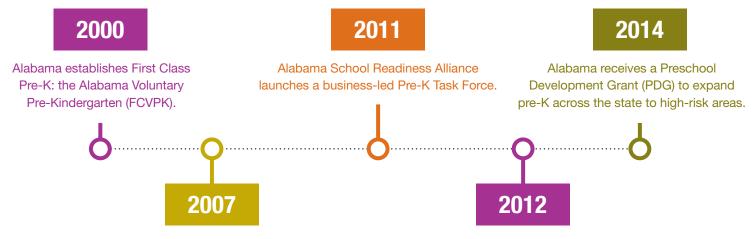




States across the nation are leading the way to ensure more children—especially those from low-income families have access to high-quality early learning and care from birth through age five. And much of the progress at the state and local level has been made possible by strong partnerships with the 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.



A TIMELINE OF STATE LEADERSHIP: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN ALABAMA



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.

"I'm thrilled to announce the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has awarded the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education a \$1.5 million grant that will go a long way in helping us to expand our Pre-3 program. Ensuring that our children receive a high-quality, early childhood education is a key component to my 'Strong Start, Strong Finish' initiative." — ALABAMA GOVERNOR KAY IVEY

"First Class Pre-K 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."

- FORMER 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



Reduce the Need for Spending on Special Education