



Early Childhood Education in Florida



Opportunities made possible through state and federal investment

High-quality early childhood education is proven to dramatically improve a child’s opportunities for a better future—particularly children from low-income families. If we, as a nation, want to ensure all children have access to high-quality early learning, there must be strong support and partnerships from federal government to extend the reach or fill in the gaps of state efforts and innovation.

In fact, states and the federal government are crucial partners in expanding access and options for parents to provide a quality early childhood education to their children from birth through age five. Many state and community efforts leverage federal funding, which allows them to create and expand high-quality early learning and care opportunities beyond what is possible with only state funding. There are also several early childhood programs operating in all 50 states that are funded exclusively with federal dollars, while others rely on a combination of federal, state, local, and even private funding.

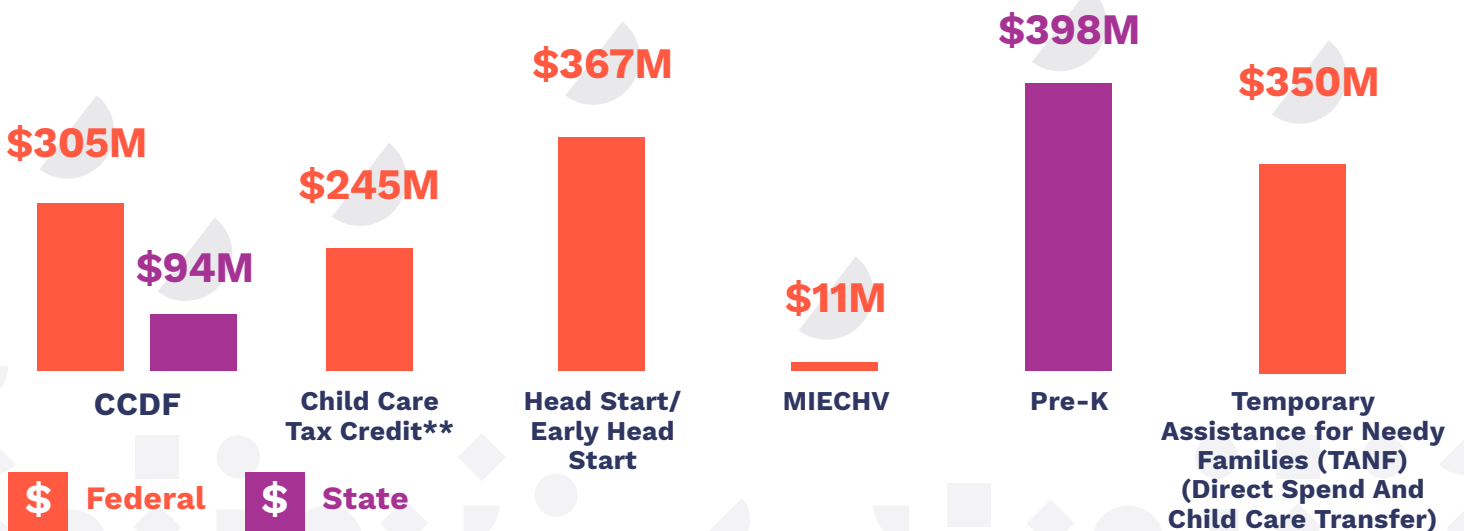
This fact sheet provides an abbreviated overview of state- and federally-funded early childhood opportunities in Florida, which serve more than 700,000 children and families.*

*This figure includes beneficiaries of Head Start/Early Head Start, the Child Care Tax Credit, CCDF, MIECHV, and state-funded Pre-K.

Florida Quick Facts

Population Under Six	1,313,588
Percent Under Six Living in Poverty	25.6%
Children Enrolled in Head Start / Early Head Start	39,697
Families Served by the Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)	3,573
Children Enrolled in State Pre-K	174,252
Families Supported by the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)	82,300

Federal and State Early Childhood Education Program Funding 2017



**2015 Data

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Head Start | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child Care | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child Care | Health Resources and Services Administration | National Institute for Early Education Research | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child Care

A Timeline of State Leadership Early Childhood Education in Florida

2002

State constitutional amendment requires Pre-K access for all Florida 4-year-olds.

2011

Florida Early Learning and Development Standards for Four-Year-Olds approved by State Board of Education.

2013

All providers required to administer Florida VPK assessment at beginning and end of each schoolyear.

2005

Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Program (VPK) begins operating, service approximately 100,000 children.

2012

VPK enrollment reaches 175,000 children.

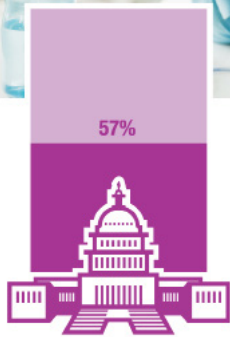
2015

Teaching Strategies GOLD utilized by all VPK providers to assess children's development in domains not covered by the VPK assessment.

“Families want their children to have high-quality educational opportunities and research shows a good education begins early. That is why investing \$1.1 billion in early childhood education is so important for our state. I am committed to continued support for early learning, and making sure Florida remains number one in the nation for access to prekindergarten.”



- Governor Rick Scott



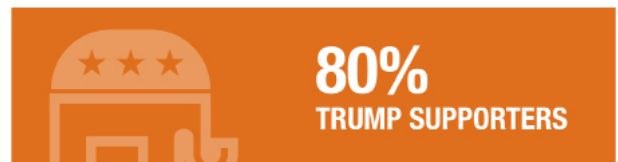
57% OF VOTERS

WOULD HAVE A MORE FAVORABLE OPINION OF THEIR MEMBER OF CONGRESS IF HE OR SHE SUPPORTED INCREASED FUNDING FOR QUALITY #ECE.

AMERICAN VOTERS AGREE: ECE must be a priority for Congress and the administration. Learn more at www.ffyf.org



REGARDLESS OF WHO THEY SUPPORTED IN NOVEMBER, AMERICANS WANT THEIR MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO WORK WITH THE PRESIDENT ON EARLY EDUCATION.



AMERICAN VOTERS AGREE: ECE must be a priority for Congress and the administration. Learn more at www.ffyf.org

Sources: National Institute For Early Education Research | Office Of Florida Governor Rick Scott