

Importance of Early Childhood Investments – Birth to 3rd Grade

Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee –
September 4th, 2019



**PRICHARD COMMITTEE
FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

STUDY • INFORM • ENGAGE

Who is the Prichard Committee?

We began in 1983 as an independent, nonprofit organization with committee members from across the Commonwealth.

We engage families, students, business and community leaders on education issues from early childhood to postsecondary.

We produce independent, solutions-oriented policy research and recommendations, supported and informed by engagement of citizens across Kentucky.

We focus on moving Kentucky to top tier of states for educational excellence **WITH equity.**

Why Do Investments In Early Years Matter?

- Supporting families' effort in giving babies and toddlers as safe, nurturing home environment promotes Healthy Brain Development in the earliest years.
- Encouraging strong learning between teachers and students, as well as more support for specialized needs of children and their families leads to Learning that Builds the Foundation for Future Success.
- Increasing opportunities for more young children to learn in high-quality, full-day settings in all areas of Kentucky Helps More Families Enter and Stay in the Workforce.

Why Do Investments In Early Years Matter?

Learning

**85% of Brain
Development Before
Age 5**

**Achievement Gaps
Begin to Appear at 18
Months**

Workforce

**12.6% of Kentucky
Families Report Job
Insecurity Due to Lack
of Child Care**

**Lack of Child Care
Costs Employers Over
\$3 Billion Annually**

Return on Investment

**Returns \$5 for Every
\$1 Invested in Public
and Private Benefits**

**Benefits Include: Higher
Income & Education
Attainment, Less Crime,
Healthier Families, Less
Public Assistance**



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2019 Education Poll of Kentucky

How difficult is it to find quality, affordable childcare and preschool in Kentucky?



Percentage of voters that needed child care services who reported it was "somewhat or very difficult" to find

Statewide Issue



% of respondents that needed child care services who reported it was "somewhat or very difficult" to find

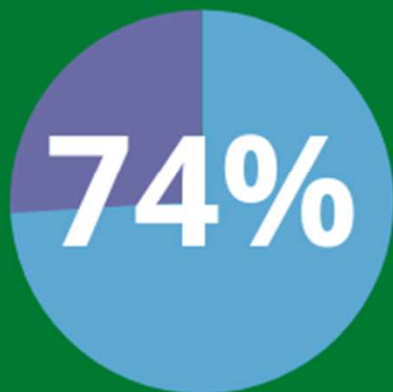


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2019 Education Poll of Kentucky

Do you oppose or support increasing state funding for low-income working parents to provide quality childcare and preschool for their children?



Voters strongly or somewhat support increasing state funding for quality childcare & preschool

80%
Democrats

74%
Independents

67%
Republicans

Universal Support

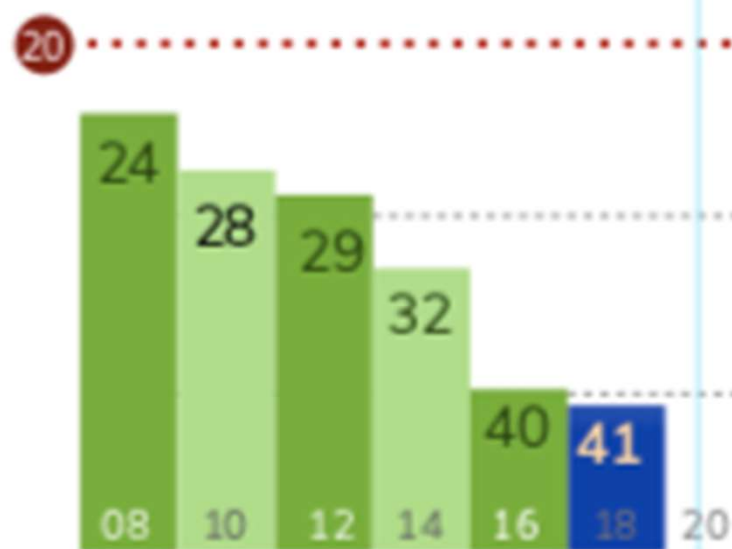
A majority of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans all support increasing state funding for quality childcare & preschool.

41st

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF CHILDREN AGES 3 & 4

HAWAII is 20th at 47.1% >
Kentucky's rate is 41.3%

SOURCE: 2006, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014
& 2016 three-year average estimates
(American Community Survey)



Tobacco Dollar Provide Substantial Support

- **Early Childhood Development Fund Receives ~\$28 Million annually.**
- **Programs of Focus:**
 - **HANDS – Healthy Access Nurturing Development Services**
 - **Child Care Supports – Early Childhood Development Program**
 - **KIDS NOW Scholarship – Early Childhood Scholarships**

Tobacco Dollar Provide Substantial Support

	FY 2019 - Enacted	FY 2020 - Enacted
HANDS	\$9 Million	\$9 Million
Child Care Support	\$10.7 Million	\$9.7 Million
Early Childhood Development Scholarship	\$0 (\$1.1 million)	\$0 (\$1.1 million)

HANDS

- **HANDS Goals**
 - **Improve Pregnancy & Birth Outcomes**
 - **Promote Healthy Child Development**
 - **Build Safe Homes**
 - **Increase Family Self Sufficiency**
- **Combined with Federal MIECHV funds, HANDS served over 10,000 families in all 120 KY Counties in 2018.**

Impact of HANDS is Substantial

MATERNAL OUTCOMES



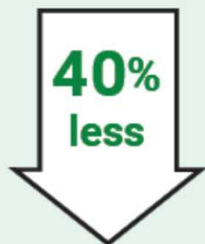
ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE

14% more than similar families that did not participate



PREGNANCY-INDUCED HYPERTENSION

49% less than similar families that did not participate



MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS DURING PREGNANCY

40% less than similar families that did not participate

CHILD OUTCOMES



PREMATURITY

26% less than similar families that did not participate



LOW BIRTH WEIGHT INFANTS

46% less than similar families that did not participate



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

47% less than similar families that did not participate

Child Care Supports

- **Early Childhood Development Program**
 - **Supports Low-Income Families Afford Child Care through Subsidies**
 - **KY All STARS - Promotes Quality Through Enhanced Incentives to Child Care Providers**
- **Currently Helps Support 28,678 Children through Child Care Assistance Program.**

Early Childhood Scholarships

- Financial aid to Kentucky students pursuing one of the following:
 - Child Development Associate Credential.
 - Associate's degree in early childhood education.
 - Bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary early childhood education or a related program approved by the Early Childhood Development Authority.
 - Kentucky Early Childhood Development Director's Certificate.
- Critical Support to the Development of the Early Learning Profession and Quality Services for Families.
- Concerned about Sustainability without Direct Funding in Budget.

Concerns – Funding & Support for Quality

- Current CFG estimates project steep decline in Tobacco dollars.

FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
\$117.6 M	\$111.3 M	\$107.2 M	\$103.6 M	\$100.8 M	\$98.1 M

- Must find ways to sustain these critical efforts, regardless of funding source.
 - A Strong Start for families & children is crucial to future academic and economic success.
 - Investing in the true Cost of Quality for early learning opportunities will reap benefits for all children, families, and communities.
 - Supporting the Profession of Early Learning will improve quality to help attract and retain the best professionals for our children.