

If we're not ready, neither is your company.



Did you know that more than 85 percent of the foundation for communications, critical thinking, problem-solving and teamwork—skills that employers nationwide* cite as critical to success in the workplace—is developed by age five?

Or that the achievement gap, often discussed in the context of K–12 education, begins well before kindergarten, with many children entering school without the basic social, emotional and intellectual skills they will need to be successful in school and agile in the future workforce?

“The best way to develop a well-educated and well-trained workforce for the future is to start early—because even the best schools cannot produce the best workers if children are coming to school ready to fail.”

— Former North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt

Children who receive a quality early childhood education are more likely to do well in school, graduate high school and go on to college— which is vital since a large majority of the U.S. jobs created between 2000 – 2015 will require education beyond high school.

Children who enter kindergarten today well-prepared to succeed are more likely to become the kind of worker that helps companies compete in the global marketplace of the future.

* *Are They Really Ready to Work?*, a 2006 study by the Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and the Society for Human Resource Management.

More about the business and economic case for investing in early childhood education:



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The Business Roundtable and Corporate Voices for Working Families. "Early Childhood Education: A Call to Action from the Business Community." The Business Roundtable. <http://www.businessroundtable.org/pdf/901.pdf>

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Rolnick, Art, and Rob Grunewald. "Early Childhood Development: Economic Development with a High Public Return." Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. <http://woodrow.mpls.frb.fed.us/pubs/fedgaz/03-03/earlychild.cfm>



To learn more about why quality early childhood education and school readiness matter to the future of your company, please visit www.fairfax-futures.org