

QUALITY PRE-K FOR PHILADELPHIA

What's the impact of your investment?

Research shows that one of the best investments we can make in a child's life is quality early education.

Mayor Kenney believes that quality Pre-K is a smart investment in growing minds, preparing children to be skilled learners at a time when they are primed for it. Right now, 46% of our kindergarten children arrive unready for kindergarten and 44% of our third-graders are not reading on grade level. If done right, quality Pre-K will provide short-term and lasting benefits for the families and residents of Philadelphia.

In the long term, the programs result in higher graduation rates, increased earning potential, better health, fewer children in special education classes, and reduction in achievement gaps rooted in income and other factors. Quality Pre-Kindergarten programs also have been shown to help parents enter the workforce. The benefits ripple through the economy and the community.

Quality is the make-or-break factor for expanding Pre-Kindergarten. What makes for quality?

- » A full-day program in a well-equipped classroom staffed by well-trained teachers.
- » A challenging and proven curriculum.
- » And parental involvement.

But quality costs money. How can your investment help produce an additional 10,000 quality Pre-K seats over the next three years?

Here is a breakdown of how foundations can support the expansion of Philadelphia's quality Pre-K.

FACILITIES

There are a few facilities in all neighborhoods that are ready to go now. Other centers are ready to improve quality with investments in their physical environment.

- » **\$7.6 million** for classroom upgrades over the next three years. It costs \$15-18,000 to upgrade health and safety with bathrooms and sinks. This improves the center's quality rating, helping them get from STAR2 to STAR3.
- » **\$6 million** for outdoor play spaces

CURRICULUM

- » **\$440,000 annually** for three years to purchase new curricula and assessment tools for 200 classrooms per year and to train teachers to how to use them. Proven curriculum costs \$2,200 for each classroom, which includes teacher training.

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES & MATERIALS

- » **\$1.5 million annually** to expand existing quality early childhood programs by outfitting classrooms with supplies and materials to meet quality standards. It costs \$15,000 to outfit a classroom for several years.

Quality prekindergarten is a smart investment in growing minds.

**Reaching and teaching children in their early years provides learning benefits
that build over a lifetime.**

Quality Pre-K for Philadelphia

