

EVERY CHILD IN DENVER DESERVES AN EQUAL START



2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

The Denver Preschool Program makes preschool possible for all Denver families with a 4-year-old. Denver voters approved a dedicated 0.15 percent sales tax in 2006 and 2014 to fund the Denver Preschool Program (DPP) through 2026.

INCREASING ACCESS TO **QUALITY PRESCHOOL**

All children need positive learning experiences, but not all children have access to them. Our mission is to champion, fund, and increase access to quality preschool across our community.

We partner with more than 250 licensed preschool providers to ensure high quality early childhood education programs are available in every neighborhood across the community.

INVESTMENTS TO DATE

SINCE 2007

\$80 MILLION



TUITION SUPPORT



41,000+

**DENVER'S 4-YEAR-OLDS
PARTICIPATED**

REDUCING **EARLY EDUCATION EXPENSES**

Monthly tuition support is available to all families that live within the City and County of Denver and have a 4-year-old enrolled in a participating program in the year before kindergarten.

The amount of support a family receives is based on 1) the family's income 2) the quality rating of the preschool and 3) the length of day the child attends. Families with lower incomes who choose higher quality programs receive a greater amount of tuition support.

During the 2015-2016 school year, the typical child received \$501 per month in tuition support and was eligible for free lunch (tier 1 earning less than \$23,850 per year for a family of 4) and attended a level 4 quality program for a full school day.

Nearly two-thirds of participating children live in families earning less than 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (tier 1 and 2 families earning under \$44,862.50 for a family of 4).

FUNDING **QUALITY PRESCHOOL**

High quality preschool is critical to giving children a solid start. During the 2015-2016 school year the Denver Preschool Program invested more than \$1.5 million to measure and improve the quality of Denver's preschool programs. Not only does each program receive a Colorado Shines quality rating, but DPP also uses the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) to assess the quality of teacher-child interactions, which research shows play an important role in the academic and social-emotional development of children. Additionally, DPP offers early childhood educators professional development opportunities, on-site coaching and classroom materials.

250+
licensed preschools

570+
classrooms

5,092

children served during
the 2015-2016 school year

\$11,100,000+

invested since 2007

89%

of children who receive
tuition support from DPP attend
preschools ranked as having the
highest quality (levels 3, 4, and 5)

KINDERGARTEN **READINESS**

Every year in the fall and spring, the Denver Preschool Program tests a representative sample of 200 children who participated in the program to see how they progressed in five areas essential for kindergarten success. The results from the 2015-2016 study confirm that during their preschool year, DPP students:

- Increased their average vocabulary score by 2.50 points in English and .60 points in Spanish.
- Increased their average literacy score by 3.00 points in English and 6.30 points in Spanish.
- Maintained their average math score in English and improved it by 3.10 points in languages other than English.
- Increased their average scores in total protective behaviors (self initiative, self-regulation, and attachment) between 2.20 and 4.10 points.
- Maintained their executive function, behavior and emotional control scores.

3RD GRADE **RESULTS**

An annual long-term analysis confirms DPP participants demonstrate better literacy and math skills than their non-participating peers through the third-grade, even if they are considered at-risk for school failure.

In 2015, the third class of DPP participants (now in third grade) took the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career

(PARCC), Colorado's standard measure of students' academic success. DPP third graders were 4 percent more likely to "Meet or Exceed Expectations" on the PARCC ELA/literacy assessment than non-DPP third graders in 2015.

Thirty-one percent of DPP students scored "Met or Exceeded Expectations" in the math assessment compared to 28 percent of non-DPP students.

For more information, visit **DPP.ORG**
or call **303.595.4DPP (4377)**

**FUNDING
QUALITY
PRESCHOOL
FOR DENVER**