EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

High-quality early childhood education plays a critical role in early development and kindergarten readiness, and provides a jumpstart on a child’s education and long-term success. As valuable as quality preschool is, it also can represent a significant cost for most Denver families.

Average cost of preschool in Denver

\[ \text{+$12,000 \text{ PER YEAR}^*} \quad \text{20\% OF INCOME FOR SOME UP TO 40\%} \]

\[ \text{MORE THAN THE AVERAGE IN-STATE COLLEGE TUITION} \]

\[ *\text{https://www.epi.org/publication/ece-in-the-states/#/Colorado} \]

Tuition Credits:

DPP champions early childhood education as a critical step on the path to long-term success by offering tuition credits to every Denver family, regardless of income.

$140 MILLION in tuition credits to more than 60,000 STUDENTS

The highest number of families served being the families with the lowest incomes.

Quality Improvement:

In collaboration with our participating providers and local partners, we have significantly increased the quality of early childhood education programs and helped ensure there are quality options in every corner of our city.

We provide free:

- Professional development
- Coaching for educators
- College scholarships
- Classroom materials

May 2006 46 Quality Rated Providers (before DPP was created)  
August 2020 258 Quality Rated Providers (80% level 3 or higher)

Denver Preschool Program’s Core Initiatives

Approximately 80% of DPP’s budget goes to

- Tuition Support for families and
- Quality Improvement resources for providers.

DPP also engages in

- Extensive community outreach to families
- Evaluation of both its program operations and child outcomes
- Advocacy at the city, state and national levels to re-imagine the early childhood education system as a whole

What is Denver Preschool Program?

a. Denver Preschool Program (DPP) makes quality preschool available and affordable for every Denver family.

b. DPP began in 2006 thanks to a voter-approved 0.15% city sales tax, making our city one of only a few in the country that uses sales tax revenue to make high-quality early childhood education opportunities accessible to all families.

c. DPP is not a preschool nor a part of Denver Public Schools (DPS).

2021

$788 Typical monthly tuition savings

100% Of preschool tuition costs covered for qualifying families

250+ Number of licensed preschool providers we partner with

4,818 Children receiving tuition credits

63% Are children of color

DPP.ORG 303.595.4DPP (4377)