

COLORADO

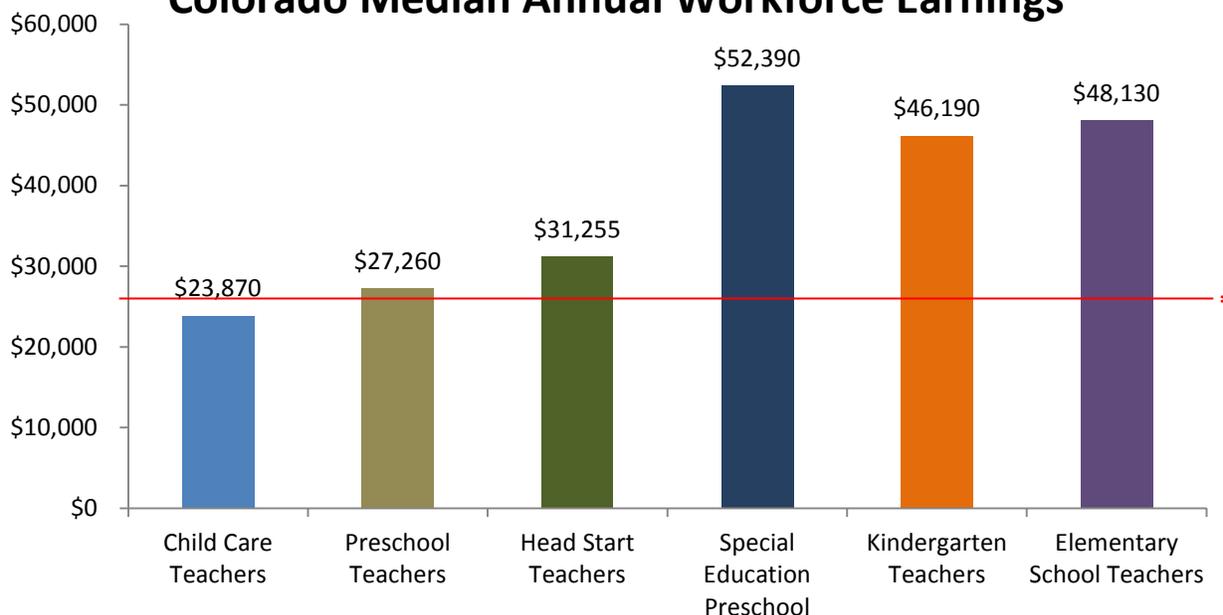
Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

- 700 1,000 new neural connections form every second
- Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain
- The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities
- Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd Grade Reading Achievement

High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

Colorado Median Annual Workforce Earnings



Colorado Demographics

- 405,577** Children Under Age 6
- 163,289** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 63.9%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 36.4%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 16.2%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Colorado Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$21,710
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$19,710
- Word Processors/Typists: \$35,970
- Nurses: \$68,540

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1 Year data (2014); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2015); Head Start Program Information Report (2015).

