**Investment in High-Quality Pre-K**
*Lays the Foundation for a More Successful PA*

**Pre-k is an Investment in our Economy.**
The short- and long-term economic benefits of high-quality pre-k are clear:

- For every dollar Pennsylvania invests in early childhood programs, more than $2 is circulated throughout local economies through employment and purchasing of goods and services.
- For every 10 jobs created in the Pennsylvania early care and education sector, 3 jobs are created outside that sector.¹

**Pre-k is an Investment in our Future.**
High-quality early learning programs help Pennsylvania’s children build intellectual infrastructure for the future and yield positive results in school and in life.²

**Invest Now, Save Later.** Investment in high-quality early learning programs:

- Returns as much as $17 in savings for every $1 invested over the long term.³
- Preserves taxpayer dollars by decreasing dropout rates that can increase the likelihood for crime and incarceration during teenage years.⁴
- Boosts the economy through increased lifetime earnings and a reduced reliance on social services.⁵ *(The estimated additional lifetime income if Pennsylvania’s dropouts had graduated with their class in 2011 is more than $4 billion.⁶)*
- Saves taxpayers’ money over time by reducing the need for special education and remedial instruction, and increasing the rates of graduation and college enrollment.⁷

**We Can’t Let PA Fall Behind.** It’s time for Pennsylvania to join states across the country – including Georgia, New York, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, West Virginia and the District of Columbia – that are providing, or are on the pathway to providing, high-quality pre-k for all 3- and 4-year-olds.⁸

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¹ Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), *The Bottom Line Is Children, Early Care and Education In Montgomery County*, February 2014.
⁶ The median income for a Pennsylvania high school dropout is $20,547, compared to $28,245 for a high school graduate, $33,989 for an Associate’s degree and $48,667 for a Bachelor’s degree.