

# Investing in Early Care and Learning in Vermont Yields Strong Returns

The economic value to state government and the public of investing in early care and learning (ECL) for children age 0-5 in Vermont.

Vermont stands to gain significant economic benefits if it increases public investment in high-quality, affordable early care and learning programs<sup>1</sup>



**Net Benefits to Society**  
from expanded high quality ECL

**\$1.3 BILLION**

**Per Child**  
net benefits to society from expanded high quality ECL

**\$52,000**  
after program costs are deducted

**Impact on the most vulnerable**  
would reach

**\$128,000**  
per low income child receiving expanded ECL

**Annual Benefits**  
of nearly

**\$22 MILLION**  
per year for the next 60 years just for the 2016 cohort of children under age 6

More than \$1.9 billion invested in ECL over the next five years would be directly injected into the local economy via wages paid to working families and increased economic activity for local businesses *and increasing revenues and savings to the local government.*



**Additional investment**  
**\$206 MILLION** → **Net Benefits**  
**\$1.3 BILLION**

All results are based on Vermont's demographic and socio-economic information combined with evidence of the impact of high-quality early care and learning programs.

These benefits come from increased future earnings and taxes of children and mothers, reduced health care costs, reduced K-12 costs of special education and repeating grades, as well as reduced future crime, substance abuse, and child welfare costs.

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<sup>1</sup> Per the recommendations of Vermont's Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care.