



GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students was established in 2010 to help **business, civic, and government leaders** maximize the economic return on the state's investments in early care and learning.

OUR MISSION

To support high-quality early learning and healthy development for Georgia's youngest children, from birth to five, by championing policies, promoting innovative and evidence-based practices, and building public will.

OUR VISION

By 2020, all Georgia students will enter kindergarten prepared to succeed, and on a path to read to learn by third grade.

WHAT WE KNOW

BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

The first three years of life represent the most rapid period of brain development, and experiences during these years critically shape future development.

EFFECTS OF HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

Children who attend high-quality early learning programs are more likely to graduate high school, have a job and earn higher wages, and are less likely to drop out of school, depend on social services or be arrested.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF EARLY EDUCATION

Every \$1 invested in high-quality early learning yields as much as \$13 in savings. In Georgia, the early care & education industry generates \$4.7 billion in economic activity each year. A conservative estimate of the level of parents' annual earnings supported by the availability of child care in Georgia is \$24 billion.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A HEALTHY START

The first five years of life are the most important for a child's future health. Young children with access to consistent preventative health services and screenings, as well as early interventions for developmental and social-emotional delays, are less likely to have chronic conditions later in life.



DRIVE CHANGE » CREATE IMPACT

We are focused on driving positive change through the following three methods:

Communicate, Convene, and Collaborate

We educate, inform and mobilize stakeholders for collective action and impact to ensure all Georgia families achieve the economic, community and health benefits of setting a strong foundation prenatally and in the first five years of a child's life.

Advocate

We advocate for effective policies that support access to high-quality early learning and encourage healthy development.

Research and Innovate

We are a trusted source who brings the most promising innovation and evidence-based practices and research to the state on behalf of Georgia's youngest children.



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