

Kentucky kids deserve the very best. Early childhood education helps them discover the joy of learning and gives them the foundation they need to reach their full potential.  
 – Gov. Andy Beshear



## KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

### VISION

All children in Kentucky will have a foundation that enables school and personal success and are supported by strong families and communities.

### MISSION

The Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) provides leadership and direction for the Commonwealth of Kentucky by providing a comprehensive and sustainable prenatal to age five early childhood system that will ensure a strong foundation for all children.

### Early Childhood Profile 2020

In 2001, Governor S. Beshear issued an Executive Order, which created a 26-member Early Childhood Advisory Council, and the Governor's Office of Early Childhood to promote greater collaboration, bring a renewed emphasis to quality and to determine a common understanding and definition of school readiness. The Early Childhood Advisory Council is a public agency attached to the Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood, with a variety of responsibilities including but not limited to, promoting the vision for Kentucky's early childhood system and advocating for improved quality of early childhood services.



Click [HERE](#) to view Kentucky's Early Childhood Profile for 2020.

### Ensure Every Child has a Strong Start

Every child in the Commonwealth – whether from a farm or the inner city –deserves a quality education that builds the foundation for a fulfilling life.

High-quality early childhood education is a critical component of K-12 success, with research showing it can help close the achievement gap. By increasing access to high-quality early childhood development supports, we have the opportunity to ensure children are ready to learn and succeed in school, compete in the global economy and contribute to thriving communities.

Click to view Parent Guides for children [ages B-3](#) and [ages 3-4](#)



### Strengthening & Cultivating Strategic State & Local Partnerships

The Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood's mission is to provide leadership and direction for the Commonwealth by providing a comprehensive and sustainable prenatal to age five system that will ensure a strong foundation for all children.

Strengthening Kentucky's Community Early Childhood Councils is a critical component to accomplishing that mission. Community Early Childhood Councils were established in 2000 with a mission to mobilize local community members to build innovative, collaborative partnerships that promote school readiness. Mobilization happens by uniting cross-sector partnerships to positively address policy, practice, and best address specific community needs. Local-level collaboration and coordination are vital to making the best decisions on state and local health, mental health, and wellness resources system to support children and families.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Community Early Childhood Councils.

### School Readiness in Kentucky

School readiness means that each child enters school ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences that best promote the child's success and ability to be Ready to Grow, Ready to Learn & Ready to Succeed.

This includes increasing the quality of early care and education programs, increasing parents' and caregivers' knowledge of and involvement in preparing their child for kindergarten and working to ensure that communities, families and schools develop early, strong partnerships creating a smooth transition from home to school.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about what School Readiness looks like in Kentucky.

