



2021 RECOMMENDATION

Increase First Class Pre-K Investments by \$24.4 Million

We support Governor Ivey’s proposal to increase state investments in First Class Pre-K by \$24.4 million during the 2021 Legislative Session. This increase will help keep our state on track to fully fund the program by the 2025-2026 school year.

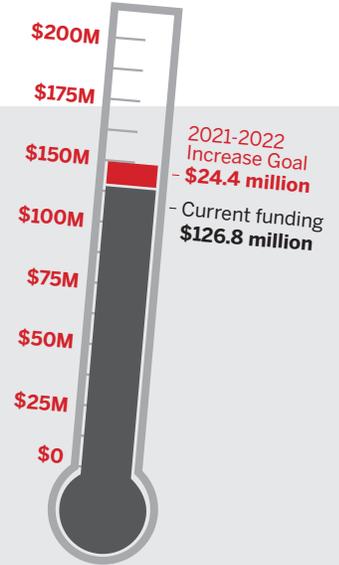
A \$24.4 MILLION INCREASE WOULD...



add at least **207** new classrooms



help enroll at least **3,726** additional four-year-olds



For **14 years** in a row, Alabama’s First Class Pre-K has been ranked #1 in the country for quality.



But only **37%** of four-year-olds in Alabama have access to the program.

Alabama’s First Class Pre-K program has lasting results.

The Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama and the University of Alabama at Birmingham have followed student progress through the ninth grade, and found that Alabama First Class Pre-K students, regardless of demographics, zip code or school, are:

MORE LIKELY to be proficient in reading and math

LESS LIKELY to be chronically absent
to be held back a grade
to need special education
to have serious disciplinary issues

In addition to increased funding for 2021-2022, our Task Force proposes a series of recommendations to support the incremental expansion of First Class Pre-K while maintaining the program’s benchmarks for quality and accountability. This year, we have added a recommendation that state lawmakers support investments in child care quality. Investing in the child care infrastructure in Alabama will help prepare children for pre-k while also supporting a diverse system of quality providers for future First Class Pre-K expansion.

The Pre-K Task Force’s Recommendations are available in their entirety at www.alabamaschoolreadiness.org/2021-Pre-K-Task-Force-Recommendations/



Alabama School Readiness Alliance PRE-K TASK FORCE

Some of the companies and organizations represented on the Alabama School Readiness Alliance's statewide Pre-K Task Force:



For a full list of members, go to www.alabamaschoolreadiness.org/asra-pre-k-task-force-members/

CONTACT US

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