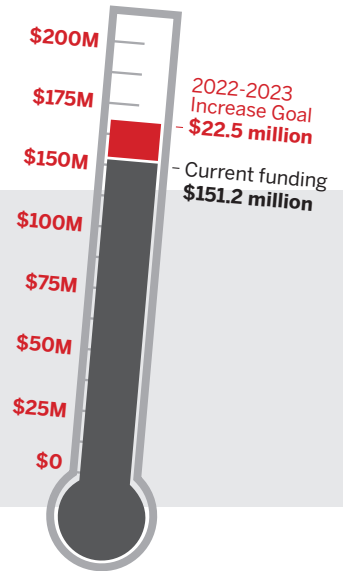




Alabama School Readiness Alliance PRE-K TASK FORCE

2022 RECOMMENDATIONS



Increase First Class Pre-K Investments by \$22.5 Million

We support Governor Ivey's proposal to increase state investments in First Class Pre-K by \$22.5 million during the 2022 Legislative Session. This increase will help keep our state on track to fully fund the program by the 2025-2026 school year.

A \$22.5 MILLION INCREASE WOULD...



add
125
new classrooms



bring enrollment
from 42 to
45%
of the state's
four-year-olds



support
apprenticeship
programs and other
efforts to recruit
teachers.



For **15 years** in a row,
Alabama's First Class Pre-K has been
ranked #1 in the country for quality.

First Class Pre-K is working.

Researchers from UAB and the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama have followed the progress of students through eighth grade and found that – regardless of zip code, demographics or school – First Class Pre-K graduates are

MORE
LIKELY

to be proficient in reading and
math on state assessments

LESS
LIKELY

to be chronically absent from school
to be held back a grade
to need special education services
to have a serious disciplinary issue

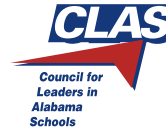
In addition to increased funding for 2022-2023, our Task Force proposes a series of recommendations to support the incremental expansion of First Class Pre-K while maintaining the program's benchmarks for quality and accountability. Recommendations include the continued use of a "diverse delivery" grant structure for First Class Pre-K that creates high-quality, state-funded pre-k classrooms in public schools, Head Start and community-based settings (such as child care, nonprofit and faith-based centers). We also recommend that the state invest in programs to improve the quality of the existing child care infrastructure, which has been severely challenged during the COVID pandemic.

The Pre-K Task Force's Recommendations are available in their entirety at
www.alabamaschoolreadiness.org/2022recommendations



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

Allison Muhlendorf, Executive Director
P.O. Box 4433, Montgomery, AL 36103
Phone: (334) 450-1027

amuhlendorf@alabamaschoolreadiness.org

www.alabamaschoolreadiness.org