



*Ready for Kindergarten, Ready for College Campaign*

# Keep the Promise of Quality Pre-K for All New York's Children

The Governor's proposal to add just \$15 million for pre-K for 3- and 4-year-olds falls dismally short of rising need and unmet demand. Nearly 77,000 four-year-olds still lack full-day pre-K. At the current rate of investment, it will take more than five decades to make pre-K truly universal.

## **EXPAND ACCESS TO FULL-DAY QUALITY PRE-K**

- **Add \$150 million for quality pre-K for both 3- and 4-year-olds.** Keep the program open to all districts and build on the Governor's proposal to add services for 15,000 children. Prioritize the needs of at-risk children in their communities. The investment should include:
  - **\$125 million to expand access for 15,000 preschoolers** with funding levels sufficient to assure quality in all settings, appropriating at a minimum of \$10,000 per child for classroom serving 4-year-olds and \$12,000 for 3-year-olds.
  - **\$25 million to enhance quality and eliminate barriers to expansion**, including an investment in regional technical assistance centers to meet the highest quality standards and partnerships between school districts and community programs.
- **Increase the reimbursement rates for Preschool Special Education and evaluations by at least 10%** to ensure services for every child in need of them.
- **Protect and build on the state's current \$857.2 million investment in pre-K.** Include appropriate resources to support each child, including those with developmental delays and disabilities, emergent multi-lingual learners and those who are homeless.

## **STRENGTHEN SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE PRE-K**

- **Include appropriate funding to support qualified teachers and staff in all settings** and fund the Regents' proposal for \$2 million investment in regional early childhood technical assistance centers.

## **INCLUDE APPROPRIATE INVESTMENT IN K-12 AID**

- **Pre-K must be followed by a continuum of quality education to prepare children for college and careers.**

*The Ready for Kindergarten, Ready for College Campaign sees child care and pre-K as companion investments and fully supports the agenda for child care and home visitation developed by Empire State Child Care Campaign and the Winning Beginning NY coalition.*