

# Early Care and Education Consortium

*The voice of child care providers on Capitol Hill and in the States*

The Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC) is a non-profit alliance of America's leading national, regional, and independent providers of high-quality child care and early learning programs for young children. ECEC is a provider voice to shape public policy in support of high-quality care and education for children and families. ECEC is the only national organization exclusively representing child care centers on Capitol Hill and in the states.

## ECEC Fast Facts 2011

ECEC members enroll nearly one million children in more than 7,500 centers located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia

ECEC members include:

- ▶ For-profit and non-profit providers of early care and education
- ▶ Early learning curriculum developers
- ▶ State child care associations
- ▶ Full-day, full-year programs, for children ages birth to 12

## Members

ECEC members include private non-profit organizations and for-profit companies who offer full-day, full-year programs for children birth through age 12 with enrollment that reflects the rich diversity of our communities and nation. ECEC members offer a variety of services including before- and after-school programs, extended day, and summer programs, and participate in state and federal initiatives including child care subsidy, state-funded prekindergarten, child nutrition initiatives, and quality rating and improvement systems. ECEC's membership also includes other organizations committed to and involved in the development of high-quality early learning experiences for young children, including early learning curriculum developers and state child care associations.

ECEC members operate more than 7,500 centers, enroll nearly 1 million children, and employ tens of thousands of early educators and other professionals in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

## Policy Priorities and Advocacy Efforts

ECEC is engaged in the states and on the federal level on behalf of its members in shaping strategies and legislation that promote the development of, and investment in, high-quality early care and education. Our members know that young children and families need both care and education, and our programs work together with parents, schools and other community organizations to deliver the best experiences for young learners and working parents. Together, we help create and advance policies that improve the lives of children and families, and strengthen our communities and nation. Our policy priorities include:

- PreK and Early Learning Initiatives
- Child Care Assistance for Working Families
- The Child Care Workforce
- Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
- Nutrition in Child Care Settings



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