Early Care &
Education Consortium



Delivering High Quality Early Care and Education

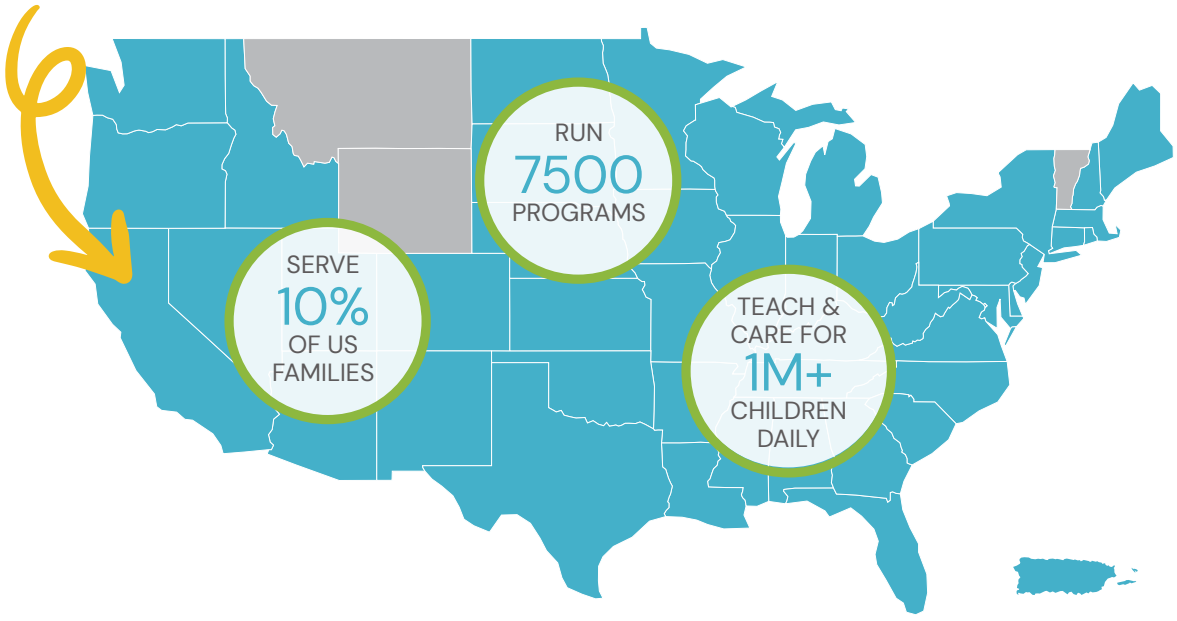
Championing policy to build a sustainable, equitable system for all

The **Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC)** is a non-profit alliance of the leading multi-site child care providers, key state child care associations, and premier educational service providers. We are a vital part of the multi-piece puzzle shaping how America prepares our children for a lifetime of success, while also supporting today's workforce.

For ECEC members, **ensuring quality** is always the foundation of child care and early learning. Our families demand it, and our providers deliver it. ECEC **envisions** a country where every family has access to the quality child care and learning that meets their unique needs, which is essential to **sustain and grow a thriving economy**.

ECEC's **mission** is to champion high-quality early care and education for ***all children*** across America. We advocate for strong federal and state policies that ensure access, affordability, and safety, working to build a sustainable, equitable system that brings **quality to scale**.

ACROSS 47 states WASHINGTON D.C. AND PUERTO RICO, ECEC MEMBERS:



Advocating for Good Public Policy

ECEC champions good public policy that expands child care access and affordability for families, supports and strengthens the early childhood workforce, preserves and expands true mixed delivery pre-K systems, modernizes licensing and child care systems, and develops both incentives for businesses to share the child care cost burden and pathways to expand provider growth.

EXPANDED CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT (CDCTC) EFFECTIVE 2026

INCREASED, RELIABLE FUNDING FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG)

SECURED SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF SEC. 45F EMPLOYER-PROVIDED CHILD CARE CREDIT

135,000+
CHILDREN SERVED VIA CCDBG

32,000+
CHILDREN IN PUBLIC PRE-K

Safe, Secure, Convenient Facilities & Manageable Classroom Sizes

ECEC providers operate in urban, suburban, rural, and exurban communities — embedded in local economies and on family commuting routes, giving parents real choice.



EXCEED LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY



EXCEED BASELINE PROVIDER-TO-CHILD RATIOS, SUPPORTING MORE INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION

LEARN MORE

Better-Supported Teachers and Staff

100%
OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE

100%
OFFER INTERNAL TRAINING



FUND CDA + COLLEGE TUITION

PROVIDE COACHING/ MENTORING

INCLUDE PRE-SERVICE TRAINING

MEDIAN TEACHER PAY EQUAL TO OR HIGHER THAN NATIONAL AND STATE AVERAGES

Quality Learning Environments

Early care is treated as the start of a child's educational journey, with research-backed curriculum aligned to state early learning standards.



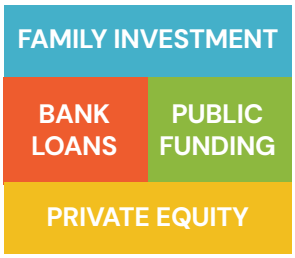
OF ECEC CENTERS NATIONALLY ACCREDITED
(COMPARED TO <6% OF ALL LICENSED CENTERS NATIONWIDE)



OF ALL NAEYC-ACCREDITED CENTERS ARE ECEC PROVIDERS

Blended Funding Streams

ECEC providers draw from multiple funding streams to expand access, broaden eligibility, and support curriculum and learning improvements for children and families.



Private investment supports growth, innovation, and family choice while maintaining quality.

ECECONSORTIUM.ORG

ECEC members deliver proven quality at scale – because every child deserves the best start.