

WASHINGTON

Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

Research shows that during the earliest years of a child's life:

700 1,000 new neural connections form every second

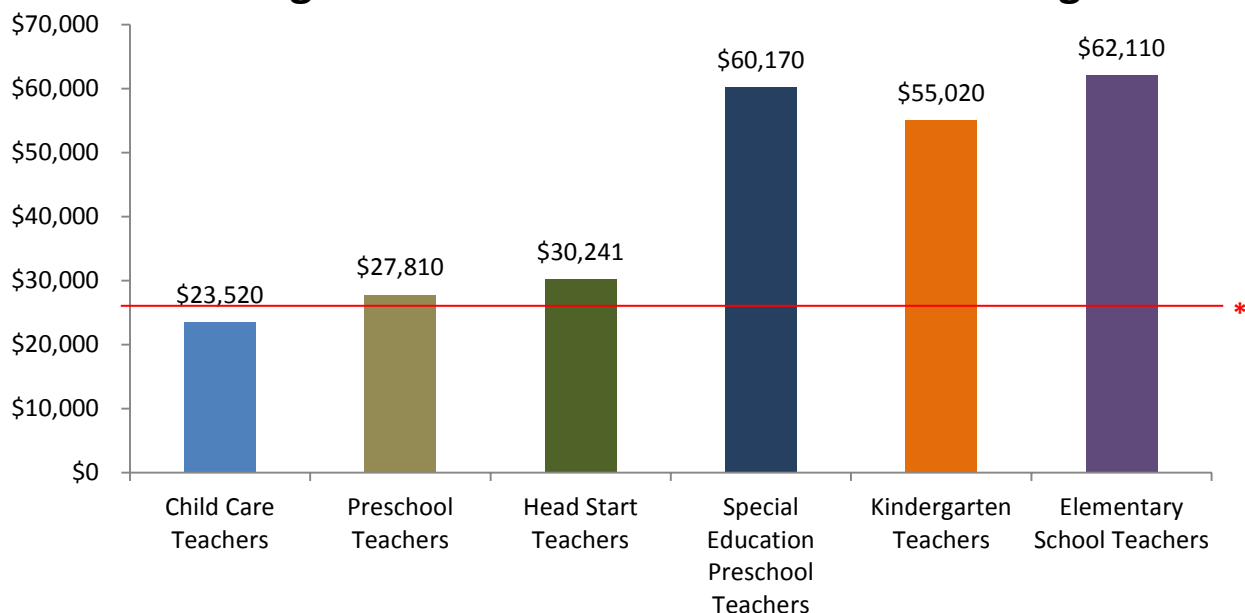
Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain

The foundation forms for future cognitive abilities

Vocabulary at age 3 can predict 3rd Grade Reading Achievement

High Quality Programs Depend on a Quality Workforce Low Wages Undermine Quality

Washington Median Annual Workforce Earnings



*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility for a family of three: \$26,124

Washington Demographics

- 535,473** Children Under Age 6
- 224,768** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 59.4%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 40.2%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 19.3%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Washington Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations



Parking Lot Attendants
\$23,180



Manicurist & Pedicurist
\$26,670



Word Processors/
Typists
\$47,480



Nurses
\$77,020

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1 Year data (2014); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (2015); Head Start Program Information Report (2015).

