

Quality Early Learning: Talking Points

You may have the opportunity to educate others on the importance of early childhood care and education for children and their families. Below are some ideas to guide your conversation.

The Facts

Delaware Children

67,787 children – birth to five years old

42% from families with low-incomes, and at risk to the achievement gap

45,000 under age 6 potentially need childcare

58% enrolled in high quality early learning programs

Cost of Early Care + Education in Delaware

\$11,000 Annual cost of infant care in a Delaware center

\$8,268 Annual cost of four-year-old care in a Delaware center

Delaware's Early Learning Workforce

10,000 Early learning professionals

\$23,460 Annual teacher salary – below 100% of the Federal Poverty Line for family of four!

35% Professionals with a bachelor's degree or higher

200+ Teachers pursued degrees in 2015 thanks to the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project

41% first generation college students

76% married with children

Average age = 37

Average GPA = 3.5

Delaware's Early Care and Learning Programs

1,238 Licensed childcare programs

447 centers

791 family care providers

478 Voluntarily enrolled in DE Stars

59% of DE Stars programs are Highly Rated*

(*Star level rating of three or higher out of five)