

TENNESSEE

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

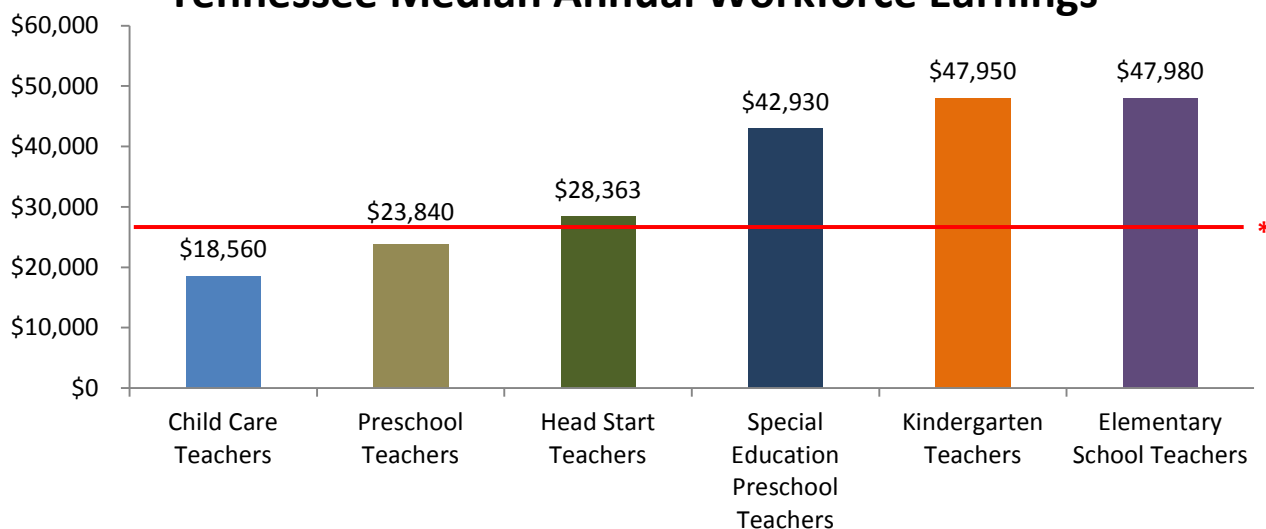
Genetics plus experiences shape the developing brain

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

Tennessee Median Annual Workforce Earnings



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

Tennessee Demographics

- 482,065** Children Under Age 6
- 270,048** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 64.1%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 56.3%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 29.3%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

Tennessee Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations



Parking Lot Attendants
\$19,510



Manicurist & Pedicurist
\$22,780



Word Processors/Typists
\$34,030



Nurses
\$56,840

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).

