

# DELAWARE

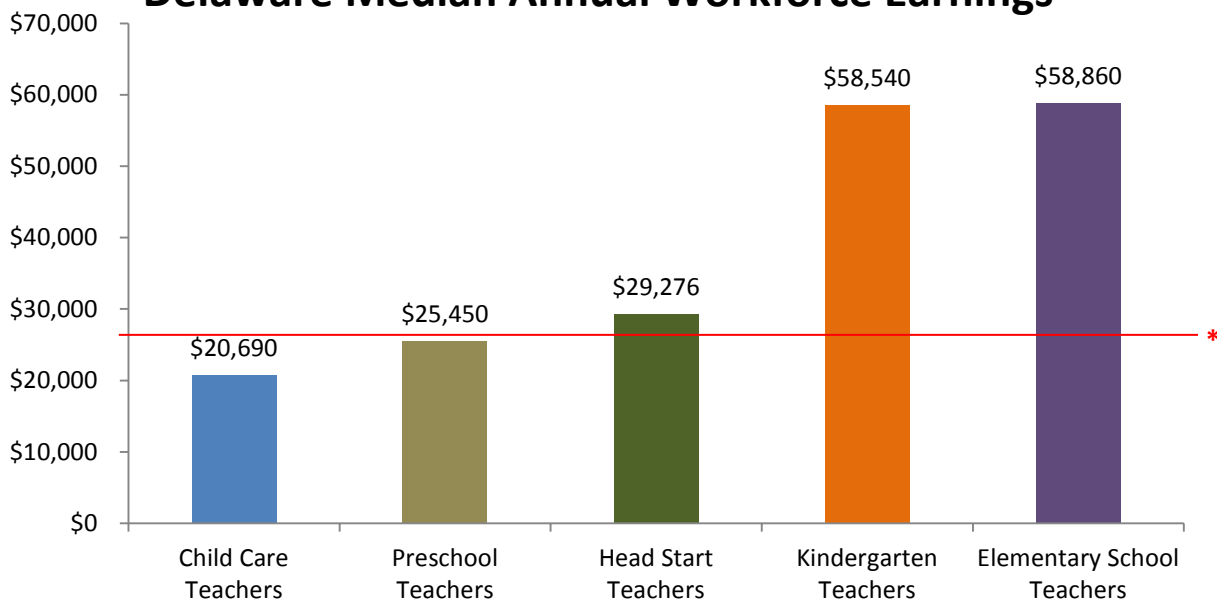
## Access to High Quality Early Learning Matters!

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 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Achievement

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

### Delaware Median Annual Workforce Earnings



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

Note: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics did not report separate wage data for DE preschool special education teachers.

### Delaware Demographics

- 68,812** Children Under Age 6
- 28,057** Children Under Age 6 Below 200% of Poverty
- 72.4%** Children Under Age 6 Living in Households with All Parents Working
- 26.7%** Families Led by a Single Mother with Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty
- 20.5%** Children Under Age 5 Living in Poverty

### Delaware Median Annual Wages for Other Occupations

- Parking Lot Attendants: \$19,660
- Manicurist & Pedicurist: \$20,940
- Word Processors/Typists: \$44,370
- Nurses: \$71,060

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).

