Quality birth-to-five early childhood education delivers the greatest return on investment.

**Higher Returns than Preschool Alone**

Every dollar invested in high-quality birth-to-five early childhood education for disadvantaged children delivers a 13% annual return on investment, significantly higher than the 7-10% return delivered by preschool alone.

**There Is No Fadeout**

Unlike other early childhood programs, ABC/CARE shows lasting gains in IQ. Lasting boosts in cognition and socio-emotional skills drive better education, health, social and economic outcomes.

**Quality Programs Are Comprehensive**

Starting from birth, integrating early health and nutrition with early learning, providing reliable child care and having a developmentally focused program delivered by nurturing teachers and skilled professionals lead to better outcomes.

**Child Care Helps Moms**

Quality care and learning provided five days a week for five years gave ABC/CARE mothers the time to enter the workforce, build skills and advance careers and income—while their children gained the skills to become productive adults. The program pays for itself within five years just based on income gains among mothers who re-enter the work force.

**Relevant and Ready for Implementation Today**

ABC/CARE has informed many of today’s comprehensive high-quality programs, including Educare and North Carolina’s Smart Start and NC Pre-K.

It pays to invest in comprehensive, high-quality, birth-to-five early childhood education. Learn more at www.heckmanequation.org.