

READY LOUISIANA COALITION



Candidate Request on Early Care and Education

for Louisiana Candidates for Governor, the Legislature, and
the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education - Elections 2019

DEMOCRATS



REPUBLICANS

AGREE:

Early Childhood Ed Works for Children and Taxpayers

"We all recognize that 90% of brain development happens between birth and age four. Funding high-quality early care and education is the best possible way to put our state on a trajectory that changes the future of Louisiana. This is where we need to be investing."

Representative Walt Leger III, House Floor, May 23, 2019

"Conservatives recognize that unless a child has the proper support and fundamental education they will have no reasonable expectation of success. In the waning days of this legislative session this new wave of conservative thought is revealed in the growing demand for funding for Early Childhood Education programs."

Senator Conrad Appel, The Hayride, May 28, 2019

Voters Support Candidates Who Support Child Care

In March 2019, the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children **commissioned Ragnar Research Partners**, a Republican polling firm, **to poll likely Louisiana voters** and determined:

- **86%** of likely voters in Louisiana said that **quality, affordable child care is an important issue** in their communities.
- **62%** of likely voters in Louisiana **support increasing state funding** for quality child care for working families, including 50% of conservatives, 70% of moderates and 86% of liberals.
- **81%** of likely voters in Louisiana believe the **government** should have **some role** in providing **child care**.

Prioritize Quality Child Care in Your Candidate Platform

We ask all candidates to include a plank in their platforms to substantially increase access to quality early care and education for Louisiana's working families, especially for children under age four.

In 2019, the **bipartisan Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Commission** called for the state to make a substantial investment in early care and education each year, for the next ten years.

Candidates for Governor of Louisiana, the Louisiana Legislature, and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education **can take specific steps NOW.**