

# Better teachers, better preschools: Student achievement linked to teacher qualifications <sup>[1]</sup>

Policy brief, Issue 2

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## AVAILABILITY

Available in print for order (see SOURCE) and online for download.

- Full policy brief available in pdf <sup>[3]</sup>

## Summary:

Research has linked early learning and development to the educational qualifications of teachers. The most effective preschool teachers <sup>[4]</sup> those with at least a four-year college degree and specialized training in early childhood have more responsive interactions with children, provide richer language and cognitive experiences, and are less authoritarian. High-quality preschool education depends on effective, high-quality teachers.

This brief presents current educational requirements for preschool teachers, reviews evidence on the importance of teacher qualifications, and offers policy recommendations:

- require four-year degrees and specialized training for preschool teachers,
- encourage higher education institutions to develop the necessary programs for professional development of early childhood teachers,
- design professional development programs to help current teachers get a four-year degree, and
- provide preschool teachers with salaries comparable to their K-12 counterparts.

By implementing these recommendations we can help to increase the number of well-educated, professional early education teachers.

**Region:** United States <sup>[4]</sup>

**Tags:** economics <sup>[5]</sup>

quality <sup>[6]</sup>

funding <sup>[7]</sup>

staff <sup>[8]</sup>

pre-school <sup>[9]</sup>

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**Source URL (modified on 27 Jan 2022):** <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/03/04/better-teachers-better-preschools-student-achievement>

## Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/03/04/better-teachers-better-preschools-student-achievement> [2] <http://nieer.org/> [3] <http://nieer.org/resources/policybriefs/2.pdf> [4] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7865> [5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/economics> [6] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/quality> [7] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/funding> [8] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/staff> [9] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/pre-school>