

# How the Leandro Plan helps CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5

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## The Leandro Plan

North Carolina's legislative roadmap for delivering the constitutional standard of EDUCATION.

### ◆ WHY IS THE PLAN NEEDED?

The decades-long court case *Leandro v. State of North Carolina* revealed state lawmaker's failure to provide every child the sound basic education guaranteed by the state constitution.

### ◆ WHAT DOES THE PLAN DO?

- Calls for comprehensive, system-wide changes that address the critical needs of our education system.
- Puts an end to the budget shortfalls and resource inequities that prevent adequate staffing, services, supplies, technology, and facilities.

**The Leandro Plan provides specific benefits for infants, toddlers, prekindergarteners, and their families:**

#### INVESTMENT



Expands the high-quality, full-year NC Pre-K program (particularly in underserved areas) by providing:

- more enrollments slots
- more funding per slot
- student transportation



Increases funding for Smart Start, a program that collaborates with local partners to serve children under age 5.



Improves the child care subsidy program to help more low-income families access care services.



Helps attract and retain qualified early childhood educators by raising pay and providing professional development opportunities.

#### SUPPORT



Increases access to infant and toddler intervention programs for children with developmental delays or special needs.



Expands the Family Connects nurse home visit program for infants, which links families to community health services.



Improves transition to the K-12 setting by developing information sharing pathways that facilitate planning and continuity of support.



**The Leandro Plan is a key investment toward providing all North Carolina children the nurturing and supportive learning environment they need for success.**

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