





# Education

A quality education is the best predictor of professional and financial success in the U.S., and the earliest years of a child's education lay a critical foundation for this success. Lack of quality preschool can impact success in kindergarten — and far beyond. This is especially true for children from low-income families, who tend to be 12 to 14 months behind their classmates in pre-literacy and language skills when they enter kindergarten, and who are:

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- Less likely to graduate high school
- Less likely to achieve higher education degrees
- Less likely to be successful in their careers<sup>5</sup>

As with child care, ALICE also faces obstacles in accessing appropriate education beyond the early years including:

- Achievement and opportunity gaps for economically disadvantaged groups and populations of color, especially in K-12 education<sup>6</sup>
- The often-prohibitive cost of higher education<sup>7</sup>

## Sources

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