



Projected Savings for Philadelphia from Pre-k

Ensuring that all Philadelphia children have access to quality pre-kindergarten could save Philadelphia Schools up to \$40 million per year in special education and other costs*

Estimated Special Education Savings	\$20 million
Estimated Total School Savings	\$40 million

*Based on economist Clive Belfield's analysis of early education's cost savings to school systems, and based on the evidence from rigorous studies of high-quality early education that followed children into adulthood, FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS projects that high-quality early education will cut ten percent off the costs of special education in Philadelphia. Cutting ten percent of the \$200 million dollars spent on special education in Philadelphia's schools could eventually save up to \$20 million a year.

This projected annual savings is based on \$20 million in special education savings alone. If we also include the reductions in grade repetition and the improved learning environment that Belfield also identified as school system savings, those additional savings would roughly double the savings from special education, to total approximately \$40 million.

Facts on Pre-k and K-12 Education in Philadelphia

K-12 Special Education Enrollment	32,180 students
K-12 Special Education Budget	\$200 million
Total K-12 Student Population	167,752 students
Total K-12 Operating Budget	\$2.4 billion
Percent of 3- and 4-year-olds served by Head Start or Publicly Funded Pre-k, 2007-2008	56%

Sources: School District of Philadelphia (2009-2010 enrollment; FY2010-2011 budget); PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning

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