

Education

To continue America's leadership in the global economy, we must ensure that our workforce has the most advanced education and training available. We cannot afford to fall behind other nations in this critical benchmark. This is why Democratic Governors have made historic investments in early childhood education, technological innovations, and high-quality teachers. We call on the federal government to join us by:

1. **Making Early Childhood Education a Priority.** To compete successfully with the rest of the world, our children need to start learning earlier in life. Our federal government needs to invest in expanding pre-k to the 2.8 million children currently not enrolled.
2. **Investing in Comprehensive Tutoring.** This program will help 34.6 million American students build their math and problem-solving skills.
3. **Enhancing Student Performance.** America must increase the percentage of high school students passing advanced placement exams. To do so states need the resources to invest in the teacher training, student examination fees and school district bonuses for each student who passes the AP course exam. With \$1 billion in new investment 25% more American students could be given this advanced training.
4. **Improving Resources at ALL High Schools.** America has 14.1 million high school students. A three year investment would enable every high school to become a state of the art learning laboratory with sufficient training for the teachers and principals to lead these new learning environments.
5. **Making Teacher Salaries Competitive.** Democratic governors are calling for a 15% wage increase for 3.1 million teachers. By providing a competitive salary, we will increase the number of quality teachers we need to educate our students. The longer we put it off, the more teachers we lose to higher-paying private sector jobs.

Education Shortfalls

Early childhood education is a priority in China, Japan, England, France, Germany and Italy.

American 15-year-olds rank 24th of 29 major industrial nations in math and problem-solving.

Teachers earn at least 15% less than other professionals in both the public and private sectors.