

MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE



PATHWAYS TO EQUITY

Early Learning Scholarships and Home Visits meet the needs of Minnesota's children (prenatal to age five) and provide multi-generational solutions

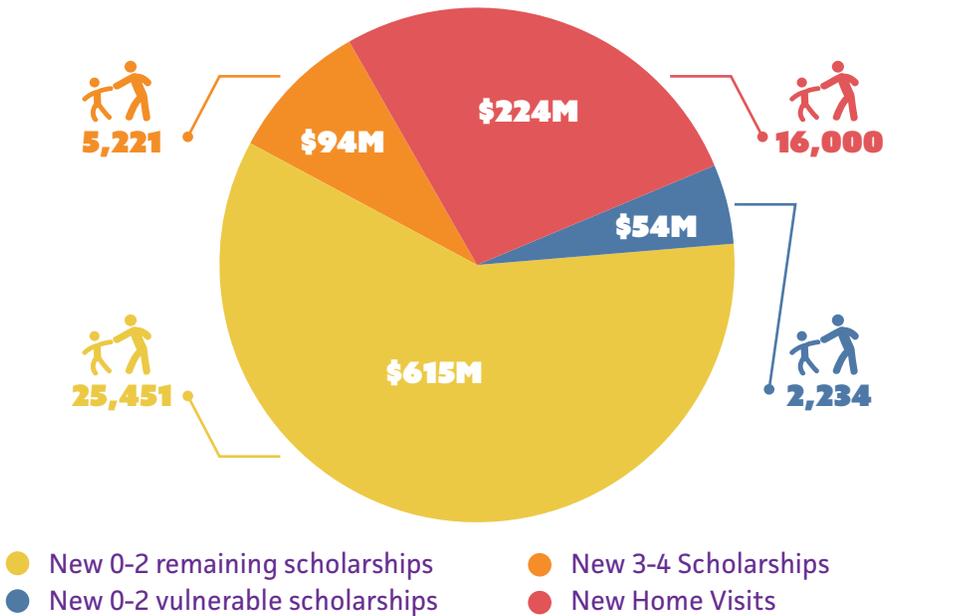
Why are Early Childhood Scholarships and Home Visits important?

A stable, supportive home environment is crucial for the well-being of young children. This is especially true for ensuring optimal attachment and learning development, as up to 85% of brain development occurs by age three, and up to 90% by age five.

However, many families in Minnesota face economic, social, and environmental barriers. Home Visits provide parents critical infant and child development information and link them to appropriate community resources, while Early Learning Scholarships give children the opportunity to attend high-quality programs despite the disadvantages their family may have.

We must serve the tens of thousands of children who would otherwise be left behind. Home Visits, Early Learning Scholarships and high-quality child care provide a pathway to racial, economic, and geographic equity.

NEW INVESTMENTS NEEDED FOR HOME VISITING AND EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIPS



● **\$615M per biennium**
(2 biennium target) Fund remaining low-income 0-2 year olds
25,451 children affected

● **\$54M per biennium**
Fund scholarships for vulnerable low-income 0- to 2-year-olds.
2,234 children affected

● **\$224M per biennium**
(2 biennium target): Fund Voluntary Home Visits for those who are pregnant (low-income) and highest-risk 0- to 5- year olds
16,000 families affected

● **\$94M per biennium**
Fund scholarships for 3- and 4-year-olds in need.
5,221 children affected

\$1.07B Total new investments to close the early childhood access gap.

What are the cost estimates for Early Childhood Scholarships and Home Visits?

Early Childhood Scholarships

• 80% of 3- and 4-year-olds and 60% of 0- to 2-year-olds living in households at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline will likely take advantage of an early education opportunity.

• On average, the cost to serve a 3- or 4-year old child is \$9,021 and the cost to serve a 0- to 2-year-old is \$12,088. This includes several factors such as the program and schedule choices families will make, and geographic differences.

• 16,537 children currently have high-quality early care and education, but an additional 33,000 lack this opportunity.

Home Visits

• In 2017, children ages 0–3 at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline live in about 54,000 families. Approximately 10,000 children are born each year to mothers receiving Medicaid in Minnesota.

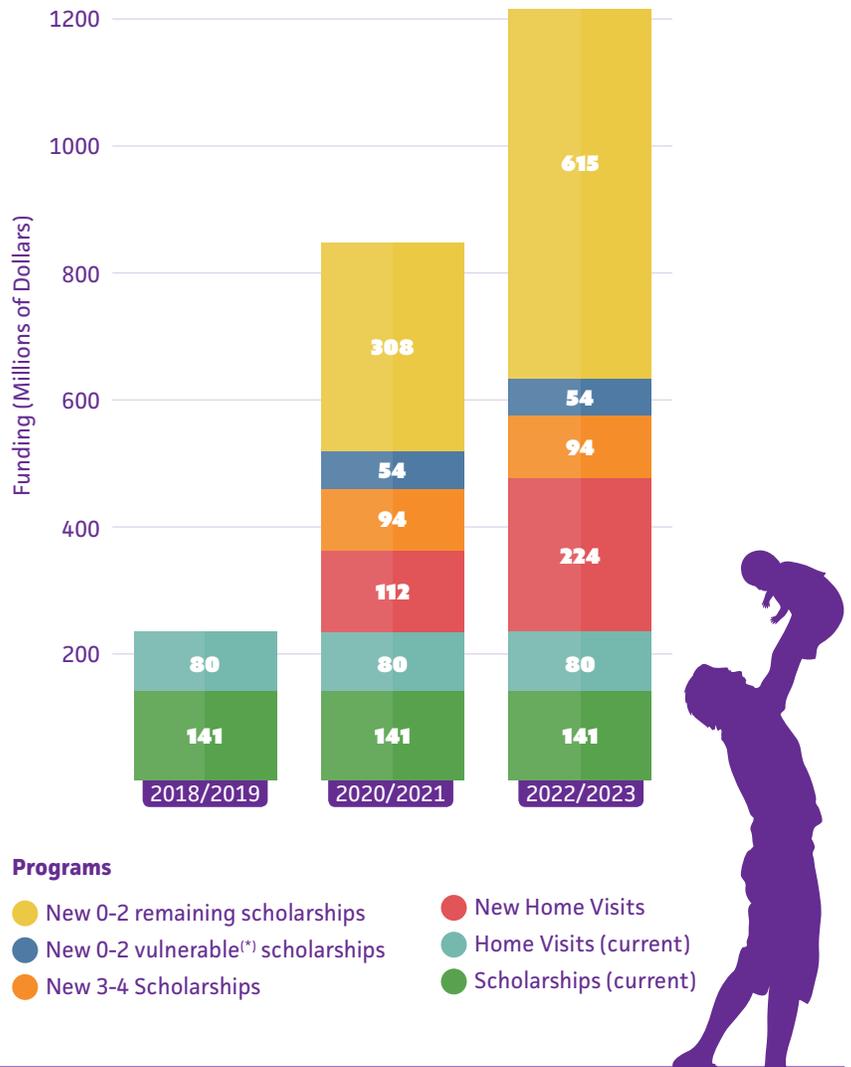
• Costs vary for targeted home visiting services. The annual cost range is \$3,500— \$12,000 per family. The average cost used in our estimates is \$7,000 per family.

• 13,500 families are currently using home visiting programs, but an additional 16,000 lack this opportunity.

Analysis Sources

This analysis was made in collaboration with Close Gaps by 5, Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Coalition for Targeted Home Visiting, Wilder Research, and Rob Grunewald from the Federal Reserve, Bank of Minneapolis.

TOTAL COST OF CLOSING THE ACCESS GAP PER BIENNIUM



WHAT MUST BE DONE TO CLOSE THE ACCESS GAP?

Early Childhood Scholarships

Fully fund the remaining eligible 3 and 4 year olds (\$47 million per year) and address the needs of all low-income 0- to 2-year-olds (\$335 million per year).

Home Visits

Serve an additional 16,000 eligible families through voluntary targeted Home Visiting.

* Children who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness, foster care, child protection, or other hardships.