



FACT SHEET

Mission	Educational First Steps (EFS) creates and supports high-quality early learning environments that ignite the minds of children from birth to age five.
Services	<p>Educational First Steps provides the evidence-based training, mentoring, and comprehensive resource support needed to help partner childcare centers achieve national accreditation, all at no cost to educators, families, and communities. In turn, childcare providers provide the high-quality, high-impact care required to create and support early learning environments that help all children experience equal opportunities for success. Through their early childhood education program, Four Steps to Excellence, EFS's centers close learning gaps for early learners; break cycles of poverty for families; and help create a brighter and more socially, economically, and racially equitable future. EFS transforms existing childcare centers by connecting early childhood educators with training and mentors. Included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) a combination of one-on-one mentoring and classroom instruction2) scholarship assistance for Child Development Associates (CDA) certification3) upgraded materials, supplies, and playground equipment. <p>In addition to training tracks available for both directors and teachers, EFS furnishes marketing, enrollment management, and basic business training to enhance professionalism and sustainability. In short, EFS equalizes the chance for children to have a strong start when they enter elementary school and increases their chances for success in school and life.</p>
COVID-19 Services	Since mid-March 2020, EFS has offered assistance to partner centers through the COVID-19 Childcare Relief Fund , allocating emergency grants of up to \$4,000 dollars to 105 centers adversely impacted by COVID-19; distributing \$30,000 of PPE supplies to 105 centers; and coordinating state and federal emergency relief information and resources.
Partner Centers Preschools	There are 158 independent partner centers within 24 school districts across North Texas. All EFS partner centers are on the journey to Centers of Quality: 74 are “Centers in Quality,” 23 are “On Pathway,” and two are “In Discovery.” There are 531 classrooms, 1565 teachers, and 151 center directors. Of the 158 Partners, a third are Home Based Providers.
Children Served	EFS partner centers served 8271 children 2019. Just over half are African American; one-third are Latino; nearly a fifth are Caucasian; and almost one in 10 is Asian American.
Founding Date	1990
Co-Founders	David Munson, Sr., a Dallas philanthropist and oil and gas investor. He co-founded EFS with former Dallas ISD Superintendent Linus Wright and his wife, Joyce Wright.
Corporate Type	Non-profit corporation, tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code
Headquarters	2815 Gaston Ave, Dallas, TX 75226 and 4900 SE Loop 820, Suite 204, Fort Worth, TX 76140
Chief Executive	Vickie Allen, Executive Director, Educational First Steps . Julie Smith, Chair, Board of Directors .
Staff and Budget	21 paid staff members ; find audited financial info and links to IRS Form 990s here .
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