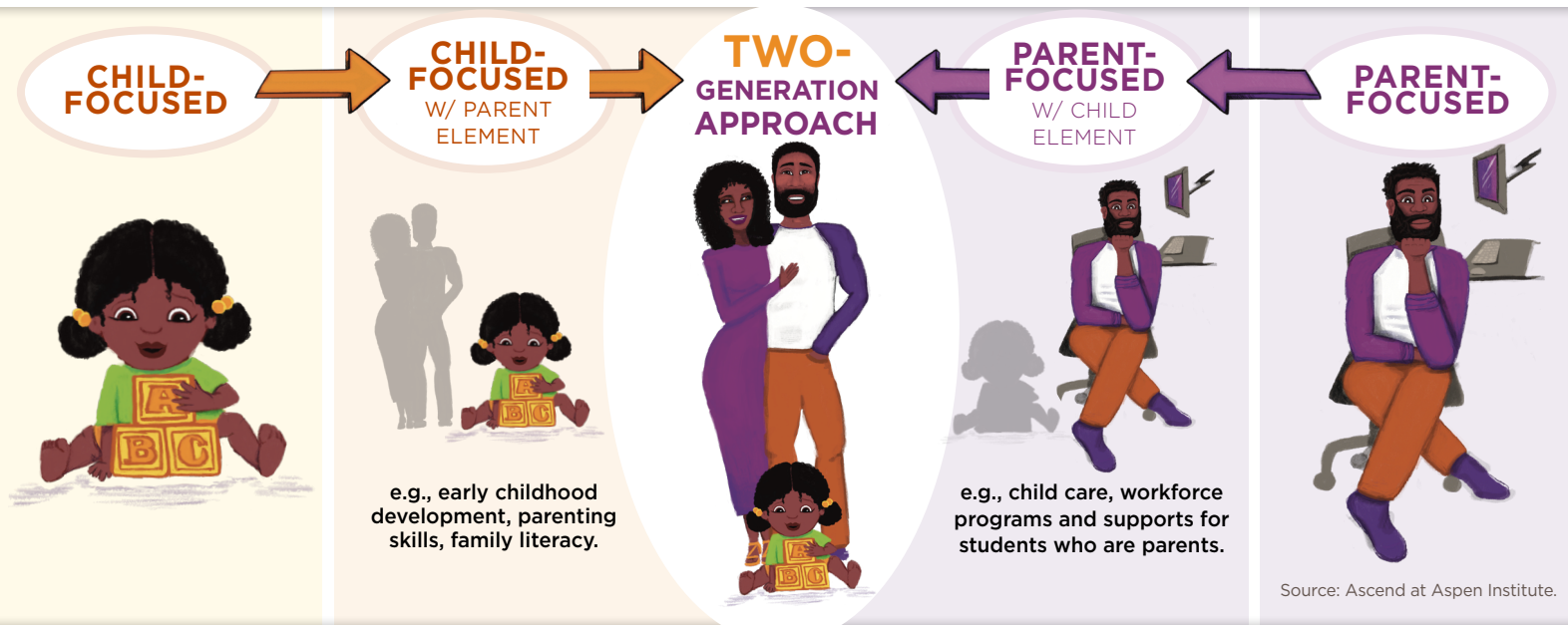


WHAT DOES TWO-GENERATION MEAN?

Two-generation strategies are based on the principle that children thrive when their parents do and vice versa. They “**intentionally and simultaneously**” weave child-focused and parent-focused policy and programs together to improve outcomes for all generations within the family. While there are a multitude of two-generation strategies, one common approach pairs education and workforce programs serving students who are parents with high-quality early childhood education programs that serve their children.



DATA AND RESEARCH

Data on two-generation strategies is currently limited to individual program outcomes. This presents an opportunity for states and educational institutions to improve data collection. A recent report from the Institute for Women’s Policy Research supports adding students’ **parent status** to postsecondary institutional data collections, stating that it would “help campuses, higher education systems and policymakers assess needs, target supports and services, understand student outcomes, and measure what works to promote student parent enrollment, persistence and completion.”

<p>In 2017, about 17.5% of children in pre-k through 12th grade lived in poverty.</p>	<p>TWO-GENERATION POLICY CONSIDERATION:</p> <p><i>Could their parents benefit from education or workforce services?</i></p>	<p>TWO-GENERATION POLICY CONSIDERATION:</p> <p><i>Is child care a barrier to the parent’s educational persistence or completion?</i></p>	<p>Nearly 1 in 5 undergraduate students are parents.</p>
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POLICY EXAMPLES

Policy opportunities to support two-generation strategies exist across the P-20 education spectrum. They include providing parents with resources for and referrals to early childhood programs, connecting families to community resources in community schools and removing barriers, such as the lack of child care, to ensure that parents can further their postsecondary education and workforce goals.



COMPREHENSIVE STATE APPROACH

CT Connecticut established, through legislation in 2015 (**S.B. 1502**), a “two-generational school readiness and workforce development pilot program.” Since then, it (**Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 17b-112I**) has evolved into a “two-generational initiative to disrupt cycles of poverty and advance family economic self-sufficiency,” with a focus on early childhood care and education, health, workforce readiness and economic self-sufficiency. In 2018, legislation (**H.B. 5335**) was passed to align the state’s coordinated reading plan with the two-generation initiative, further connecting parent literacy and engagement with student literacy and school readiness.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **What is 2Gen?**, Ascend at the Aspen Institute,
- **Advancing Two-Generation Approaches**, Annie E. Casey Foundation
- **Two-Generation Strategies Toolkit for State Legislators**, National Conference of State Legislatures
- **Two-Generation Approaches To Serving Low-Income Families**, National Governors Association

