

How Do I Apply for Head Start and Early Head Start?

Applying for Head Start and Early Head Start can be a simple process. Parents can use this information to help guide their effort when applying for Head Start and Early Head Start services

Finding the Head Start or Early Head Start Program in your Area:

1. Contact the Head Start or Early Head Start agency serving your community. Your local Head Start agency will provide the required forms and answer questions about the program.
2. To find a Head Start or Early Head Start program near you, use the [Head Start Locator](#) on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center. If you need more help to find a Head Start or Early Head Start program in your area please call the Head Start Knowledge and Information Management Services toll free at 1-866-763-6481. We would be happy to assist you.

Age Requirements

3. Children from birth to age five, and families with income below the poverty line are eligible for Head Start (preschool-age children) and Early Head Start services (birth to age three and pregnant women).

Financial Considerations

4. Children from families receiving public assistance (TANF or SSI) are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services regardless of family income.
5. Foster children are also Head Start- and Early Head Start-eligible regardless of their foster family's income. (Programs may, however, enroll up to 10% of their children from families that do not meet the above requirements.)

Completing the Paper Work

6. Your local program can explain the paperwork you should bring to apply and they will determine whether your family is eligible.

--Taken from the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center website
2008