



# Rhode Island Department of Human Services

## Head Start



### What is Head Start?

Head Start programs prepare America's most vulnerable young children to succeed in school and in life beyond school. To achieve this, Head Start programs deliver services to children and families in core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being while engaging families every step of the way.

Head Start programs promote the school readiness of infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children from families with low income. Services are provided in a variety of settings. Head Start programs also engage parents or other key family members in positive relationships, with a focus on family well-being. Parents participate in leadership roles, including having input in program operations.

Head Start services are **FREE** of cost to enrolled children and families. They are delivered in Rhode Island through seven agencies, which tailor the federal program to the local needs of families in their service area.

### Who is eligible for Head Start?

You *may* be eligible for Head Start if you meet one or more of the following:

- At or below the Federal Poverty Level
- Receiving Public Assistance
  - SNAP
  - SSI
  - RI Works
- Foster Care
- Experiencing Homelessness

### Head Start Models in RI:

**Head Start:** center-based care for children ages 3-5.

**Early Head Start:** center or home-based care for pregnant women and children ages birth to age 3.

**Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships:** Families that meet Head Start guidelines and receive State child care assistance ages birth to age 3.

### How to Apply?

Your local Head Start program can help you understand the requirements for applying to enroll your child. They will answer your questions, provide required forms, and tell you the documents needed to apply. Enrollment slots are limited, so contact your local program today. If there isn't a space for your child at this time, you can ask the program to put your family on the waitlist. **See reverse to find your local program today.**

### Is there anything else I should know?

While DHS is home to the **RI Head Start Collaboration Office**, DHS **does not** determine the eligibility for Head Start nor does it facilitate the application process. Contact the Head Start program that serves your community to apply for enrollment.

For more information, contact the program serving your community today.

Communities Served:	Programs:
Coventry, East Greenwich, Warwick, West Greenwich, West Warwick	<b>C.H.I.L.D. Inc.</b> Head Start & Early Head Start 160 Draper Avenue, Ave. Warwick, RI 02889 (main office) 401-732-5200; <a href="http://www.childinc.org">www.childinc.org</a>
Central Falls, Cumberland, Lincoln, Pawtucket, Providence *EHS-CCP available statewide	<b>Children's Friend</b> Head Start, Early Head Start & Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships (EHS-CCP)* 153 Summer Street Providence, RI 02903 (main office) 401-752-7500; <a href="http://www.cfsri.org">www.cfsri.org</a>
Cranston	<b>Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP)</b> Head Start & Early Head Start 311 Doric Avenue Cranston, RI 02910 (main office) 401-467-9610; <a href="http://www.comcap.org">www.comcap.org</a>
Barrington, Bristol, East Providence, Jamestown, Little Compton, Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth, Tiverton, Warren	<b>East Bay Community Action Program (EBCAP)</b> Head Start & Early Head Start 8 John H. Chafee Boulevard Newport, RI 02840 (main office) 401-367-2001; <a href="http://www.ebcap.org">www.ebcap.org</a>
Providence	<b>Meeting Street</b> Early Head Start (home-based) 1000 Eddy Street Providence, RI 02905 401-533-9100; <a href="http://www.meetingstreet.org">www.meetingstreet.org</a>
Block Island, Burrillville, Charlestown, Exeter, Foster, Glocester, Hopkinton, Johnston, Narragansett, North Kingstown, North Providence, North Smithfield, Richmond, Scituate, Smithfield, South Kingstown, Westerly	<b>Tri-County Community Action Agency</b> Head Start & Early Head Start 1126 Hartford Avenue Johnson, RI 02919 (main office) 401-351-2750; <a href="http://www.tricountyri.org">www.tricountyri.org</a>
Woonsocket	<b>Woonsocket Head Start Child Development Association</b> Head Start & Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships 204 Warwick Street Woonsocket, RI 02895 (main office) 401-769-1850; <a href="http://www.whscda.org">www.whscda.org</a>

**Have More Questions?**

Visit our website: [www.dhs.ri.gov](http://www.dhs.ri.gov); Visit the Office of Head Start Website: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs>  
 For DHS: Call: 1-855-MY-RIDHS (1-855-697-4347) Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, except holidays, from 8:30AM-3:00PM  
 For Office of Head Start Call: 1-866-763-6481 Monday- Friday 8:00AM-6:00PM or email: [HeadStart@ecklc.info](mailto:HeadStart@ecklc.info)  
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