

Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start is a federally funded program that provides comprehensive services for low-income Hoosier children and their families. Head Start programs are available in every county and serve children ages three through five. Sixty-six Indiana Counties have Early Head Start programs which serve pregnant women, infant and toddlers (ages birth to three). All programs provide early childhood educational, social, medical, dental, nutritional and mental health services to enrolled children and families. Head Start Services are provided at no cost to enrolled children and families

Who is Eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start Services?

In order to qualify for Head Start or Early Head Start, you must be a resident of the county for which you are applying and your child must fall within the program's age and income requirements. Please contact your local program to learn more and to complete an application.

What Services are Available?

Head Start and Early Head Start programs provided:

- Educational
- Health
- Nutritional
- Social
- Other services

Services may be provided in a center setting or within a family's home, depending on the structure of a community's program.

Enrolling in Head Start or Early Head Start

The best way to know if your child will qualify is to apply. Openings for Head Start programs are filled from a waiting list of eligible applicants. Contact the Head Start or Early Head Start that serves the county in which you live to complete an application. To find a Head Start or Early Head Start program near you, call 866-763-6481 or use the Head Start locator at: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/center-locator/embedded?NoMenu=>

Learn More:

Families interested in learning more about Head Start or Early Head Start can visit the Indiana Head Start Association website at: <https://www.indianaheadstart.org/> or call 317-916-0910. Families can also call the Head Start Collaboration Office at 317-232-1951.

Additionally, families who need more information are encouraged to contact:

Tonia Carriger, Director
Indiana Head Start State Collaboration Office
402 W. Washington St., Room W362, MS02
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: 317-232-1951
Email: tonia.carriger@fssa.in.gov

To learn more
about Head Start,
call the Head
Start
Association:
(317) 916-0810 or
the Head Start
Collaboration
Office:
(317) 232-1951

Rhett Cecil, Executive Director
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(317) 232-1951**

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This fact sheet was updated February 2024. Please check <https://www.inf2f.org/fact-sheets.html> for the most recent edition.

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