

Head Start is a federally-funded, locally-run early childhood development program that provides comprehensive services for America's most vulnerable children and their families.

# 2017 Nebraska Head Start Profile



## Access to Head Start in Nebraska

**3,619**

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



**21%** of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS\*

**1,609**

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



**9%** of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS\*

These slots filled **418 classrooms** in Nebraska.

## By the numbers:

**\$47,143,109**

FY17 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in NE

**15** Head Start programs

**16** Early Head Start programs



Photo: A Head Start parent from Oakland, California with her child.

"I was a single mom with two children, unemployed, and in need of help. Head Start enrolled my four-year-old son and helped me with completing job applications. They provided me with childcare so I could go to interviews and soon I had two part-time jobs."

**Linda**  
Parent  
Gering, Nebraska

## The Head Start Advantage

Head Start children **reduce their vocabulary deficit by 38%** during the program year.

Head Start children are **31% less likely to have been held back** a grade.

Head Start children are **19% less likely to smoke** as adults.

High quality birth-to-five programs, like the combination of EHS and HS, **pay off 13% per year.**

## Nebraska's Head Start Workforce



**1,906**

HS and EHS jobs in Nebraska

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$36,963** per year.

## In Nebraska...



**298**

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



**54**

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



**189**

children in foster care were served by Head Start



**123**

children with veteran / active military parents were served by Head Start



**341**

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



**3,230**

families participated in health education



**5,637**

children had continuously accessible health care



**5,223**

children had continuous access to dental care



**946**

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



**401**

parents advanced their education level



**224**

families received job training



**156**

pregnant women were served by Early Head Start

## About NHSA

The National Head Start Association is a nonprofit organization committed to the belief that every child, regardless of circumstances at birth, has the ability to succeed in life. NHSA is the voice for more than 1 million children, 200,000 staff and 1,600 Head Start grantees in the United States.

For more information, please contact us: [go.nhsa.org/Contact](https://www.nhsa.org/Contact).

\*Eligible is defined as children from birth to age five who are from families with incomes below the poverty level, are homeless, and/or receive public assistance. Foster children are eligible regardless of their foster family's income.

For citations and other state fact sheets, please visit [www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets](https://www.nhsa.org/Fact-Sheets)



NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION

Our mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.