

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 Oklahoma Head Start Profile



Access to Head Start in Oklahoma

14,353

Funded Head Start (HS) Slots



29% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS*

2,940

Funded Early Head Start (EHS) Slots



6% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS*

These slots filled **1,191 classrooms** in Oklahoma.

By the numbers:

\$119,444,593

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

21 Head Start programs

19 Early Head Start programs



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

"I am a 4th generation single mother. I am an African American female. My salary was well below the poverty level most of my life. Support came to me through Head Start. Head Start is a place for families to get the support they need emotionally, physically, financially, and mentally. I am now a teacher and a novelist."

Brandi J.
Parent
Duncan, Oklahoma

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.**

Oklahoma's Head Start Workforce



4,626

HS and EHS jobs in Oklahoma

The average Head Start teacher with a bachelor's degree makes only **\$33,390** per year.

In Oklahoma...



2,897

slots were funded to serve American Indian / Alaska Native children



0

slots were funded to serve Migrant / Seasonal children



822

children in foster care were served by Head Start



568

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



976

children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start



5,878

families participated in health education



19,586

children had continuously accessible health care



18,060

children had continuous access to dental care



2,479

children with disabilities were served by Head Start



2,308

parents advanced their education level



1,716

families received job training



160

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



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.