The Head Start Advantage
Invest now... or spend later.

Two life trajectories

Invest now

Kindergarten readiness
Children who attend Head Start have better language, cognitive, and pre-literacy skills

Better social and emotional skills
Head Start means better social skills, fewer attention problems, more impulse control, and decreased aggression and hyperactivity

Higher education levels
Head Start alumni are less likely to repeat a grade, and more likely to graduate from high school and attend and complete college

Longer, healthier lives
Head Start alumni are less likely to be in poor health and smoke, less likely to be arrested, and on average have higher earnings

Remediation and special education
Without high-quality early learning experiences, children are more likely to need remediation and special education

Less parental involvement
Non-Head Start parents spend less time reading to their children; and non-Head Start children have less time with absent fathers

Difficulties in education
Students who were not in Head Start are more likely to have lower math scores, attendance rates, and high school grad. rates

Poorer, sicker lives
People without access to Head Start are more likely to be in poor health, charged with a crime, and have lower earnings

Choose wisely

Head Start yields at least $7 for every $1 invested*


