



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA 2019-2020 School Year

Age Eligibility

Head Start is an Early Learning program that offers a classroom based program for children prior to Kindergarten. In Alberta age cut-offs are determined by Alberta Education. Education funding may be available for children with mild/moderate/severe delays. For typically developing children, a tuition fee may apply.

Age requirements - Children who:

- have severe special education needs are eligible if they are two years old on or before January 1
- have mild or moderate developmental delays are eligible if they are three years old on or before March 1

Children with significant developmental delays **may** be eligible for funding for 2 years of Head Start and begin program if they are **2 years 8 mos. as of September 1, 2019.**

Developmental assessment must be completed for each year.

Income Eligibility

Head Start's comprehensive family, child and community engagement program is designed to meet the unique needs of vulnerable children and families. All families must meet eligibility criteria to access the program.

The income and vulnerability criteria were established to recognize the need for Head Start programming for families where other factors in addition to income may create barriers to success in learning and in life.

Families may be accepted if they meet either of the criteria below:

Family Size <small>*includes all members residing in the home</small>	Income Only Criteria	Income & Vulnerability Criteria <small>*a minimum of 3 vulnerability factors must be present</small>
Up to 3 members	\$40, 385	\$44, 423
4 members	\$49, 031	\$53, 934
5 members	\$55, 612	\$61, 173
6 members	\$62, 720	\$68, 992
7 or more members	\$69, 830	\$76, 813

Eligibility and acceptance are determined based on many factors including age, vulnerabilities, assessments and available spaces. Some examples of vulnerable families are those experiencing challenges of social isolation, recent job loss, new to Canada or to Edmonton, are a lone or teen parent, experiencing housing or transportation barriers, parents with developmental or literacy barriers, dealing with mental health or addictions or situations of violence.