



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA **2018-2019 School Year**

Age Eligibility Criteria

Head Start is an Early Learning program that offers a classroom based program for children the year prior to Kindergarten. In Alberta age cut-offs are determined by Alberta Education. Children eligible for Head Start must be a minimum of 3 years 6 months at the start of the program year (September). Please see the references below:

3 years, 6 mos. as of **September 1, 2018**

4 years before **March 1, 2019**

Born between **March 2/2014 - March 1/2015**

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, 2018**.

Family Income & Vulnerability Criteria

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

The income and vulnerability criteria was established in 2016/2017 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 eligible if they meet this higher income criteria and are experiencing challenges such as development delays for your child, social isolation, recent job loss, newcomer to Canada or to Edmonton, are a lone or teen parent, experiencing housing or transportation barriers, parents with developmental or literacy barriers, English language learners, dealing with mental health or addictions or situations of violence.

Families will 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