



## \*ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017\*

### WHAT IS HEAD START?

**Head Start** is a pre-kindergarten and family support program provided with no fees to eligible children and families.

- Children attend classes 4 half days per week- Tuesday to Friday and transportation is provided if required and you live or access child care within our transportation boundaries. Children engage in a learning through play environment and are supported through enhanced special services, if required, including: speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, health screenings and social-emotional development supports.
- Parents are provided family support or referrals if needed and have the opportunity to attend parents groups to provide helpful information and meet other parents in their community.
- Programs are available across the City of Edmonton and each location includes a certificated Teachers, Early Childhood Educators, Social Workers a Speech Language Pathologist and other specialized services as needed.

### IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR HEAD START?

#### Children who have:

No developmental delays

Mild or moderate special education needs

A first language other than English

Severe special education needs

#### Are eligible for the program if they are:

3 years old on or before March 1, 2017

3 years old on or before March 1, 2017

3 years old on or before March 1, 2017

\*2 or 3 years old on or before March 1, 2017

**\*Spaces for younger children are limited and ONLY available at Mill Woods Campus and North Campus**

### IS MY FAMILY ELIGIBLE FOR HEAD START?

Head Start's comprehensive family, child and community program is designed to meet the unique needs of vulnerable children and families. In addition to the above age criteria **all families must meet income criteria to access the program.** Detailed information regarding income eligibility is available at [abcheadstart.org](http://abcheadstart.org)

### ATTEND A REGISTRATION EVENT IN YOUR AREA

**March 6–May 27 – SCHEDULE AVAILABLE AT [ABCHEADSTART.ORG](http://ABCHEADSTART.ORG)**

#### STEP 1

Review income eligibility and find the Registration Event in your area

#### STEP 2

Attend the event in your area and be sure to bring documents for age and income eligibility verification. These requirements are available on our website and a list of acceptable documents is listed on this information sheet.



For more information visit [abcheadstart.org](http://abcheadstart.org) or call 780-461-5353

## WHAT HAPPENS AT THE EVENT?

### STEP 1

You will be greeted and asked to fill out an application form if you have not brought one with you. You can find the application form on our website and fill it out and bring it with you.

### STEP 2

You will review your application and provide proof of age and income eligibility with one of our staff.

### STEP 3

You and your child will meet with an ABC Head Start Social Worker and complete an Ages and Stages Questionnaire which is a screening tool to identify any need for other assessments.

### STEP 4

If needed based on the screening in Step 3, or because you have identified developmental concerns you will complete an assessment with a Speech Language Pathologist on site. If there is no availability at that time, or if or other assessments such Occupational Therapy are required, we will give you an appointment time before you leave and that assessment will be completed as soon as possible.

### STEP 5

You will meet with an ABC Head Start Social Worker and complete the final Intake information. **In most cases your acceptance into the program will occur at this time.** In some cases follow up assessment may be required or there may be waitlists in a particular location.

The location where your child will attend will be confirmed at a later date. **Placement in a location and morning or afternoon program is at the discretion of ABC Head Start and based solely on children's needs and transportation requirements.** You will be notified of this information by July 2017.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

- Your child
- Income verification (2016 Notice of Assessment OR 2016 T4 OR letter of employment OR recent paystubs (60 days or 2 months) OR Income Supports Documents, OR Confirmation of Adult Student Status with confirmation letter from the school, grant disbursement document and school ID OR Self-employment documents which include a financial statement
- Child's Alberta Health Care card
- Child's Birth Certificate OR Passport OR Citizenship papers (if your child is not a Canadian citizen, you will also be required to show your citizenship papers).