



HEAD START

HEAD START for Kids with Special Needs

**CALL TODAY to Enroll
or Learn More!**

Find the Head Start program near you
1-877-PRE-K-KID (1-877-773-5543)
www.prekkid.org



**GIVE YOUR CHILD
EVERY OPPORTUNITY
WITH HEAD START**

Receive services and support
in a standard classroom

Develop the learning and social skills
necessary to enter school

Interact with all students to
develop positive attitudes toward children
with special needs

Connect to services through partnerships
with local school districts,
regional centers, and
other community resources



Los Angeles County Office of Education

Serving Students • Supporting Communities • Leading Educators



HEAD START

FUNDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES,
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

Discover Your Child's Possibilities with HEAD START

Head Start and Early Head Start are programs that help low-income children, from birth to age five, and their families. And they're free! With Head Start, your child can get early childhood education that prepares them to enter school and succeed, even if they have special needs or severe disabilities. From education and family involvement to access to health and wellness services, it covers all of the areas that will help set your child up for success.



Head Start Prepares ALL Children for School

At Head Start, your child will learn and grow in a standard classroom along with students their age, while still meeting the goals and objectives in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Head Start offers a welcoming, child-centered environment that focuses on helping your child learn by:

- **Adapting classroom activities to allow the full participation of children with special needs**
- **Continued training for staff to understand the needs of children with severe disabilities**
- **Teaching children with special needs in the way they will best respond**

HEAD START PROVIDES

- 1 Services To Help All Children Reach Their Full Potential
- 2 Educational Activities In Safe Indoor and Outdoor Environments
- 3 Healthy Meals and Snacks
- 4 Free Education, Social, and Medical Screenings and Referrals for Ongoing Care for All Students



- **Working with families to help their kids develop the learning, social and physical skills necessary to do their best when they enter kindergarten**
- **Helping to coordinate services for children and families**
- **Providing classrooms that are safe for everyone and include special furniture, equipment, and materials**
- **Ensuring that all health, education, family, and community services are available and provided to children**
- **In some instances, providing children the option to participate in a home-based program, where available**

- 5 Free Parenting Classes and Parent Support
- 6 A High-Quality Early Education That Gets Your Child Ready for School
- 7 Proven Early Intervention Strategies



A Caring, Qualified Staff

Our staff is committed to giving your child understanding, acceptance, and an environment for learning and success. Head Start teachers are required to have a degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field. Each agency has an assigned disabilities coordinator and our staff receives annual professional development to help them support special needs in the classroom.

Services for the Whole Family

When you enroll in Head Start, you get more than just a quality education for your child with special needs. You and your family will also receive ongoing training to help you become an advocate for your child. You also get access to resources to improve the health, education, and wellness of everyone in your family.