



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA **2020-2021 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 significant or mild/moderate delays. Head Start’s programs are free subject to eligibility. Fee for service or subsidized programming may also be available.

Children who have significant developmental delays are eligible if they are **2 years and 8 months old on September 1st**. □

Children who have mild or moderate developmental delays are eligible if they are between **3 years 8 months and 4 years 6 months old on September 1st**. □

Children who do not have a developmental delay are eligible if they are between **3 years 8 months and 4 years 6 months old on September 1st**. □

Children with significant developmental delays may be eligible for two years of Head Start programming if they are **2 years and 8 months as of September 1st** subject to further eligibility and assessments. □

Spots in Head Start are limited. Children with significant or mild/moderate developmental delays will be given priority.

Income Eligibility

For children who do not have a developmental delay, household income and vulnerability are considered for program eligibility.

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 income and/or vulnerability criteria below:

Family Size *includes all members residing in the home	Income Only Criteria	Income & Vulnerability Criteria *a minimum of 3 vulnerability factors must be present
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.