Head Start is a community-based, comprehensive early education program that gives young children from at-risk backgrounds the skills they need to be successful in school and life.

### By the Numbers

$344,519,689

FY18 Estimated Funding for HS, EHS, and EHS-Child Care Partnerships in Illinois

| 43 | Head Start Programs |
| 43 | Early Head Start Programs |

### Access to Head Start in Illinois

| 27,240 | 8,101 |
| Funded **Head Start** (HS) Slots | Funded **Early Head Start** (EHS) Slots |

51% of eligible children ages 3 - 5 had access to HS

10% of eligible children under 3 had access to EHS

These slots filled **2,328 classrooms** in Illinois.

### Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

2.3x

Children in poverty are **2.3 times** more likely to suffer from 3 or more ACEs.

ACEs include abuse, neglect, homelessness, parental substance abuse, or foster care.

Research shows that as the number of ACEs increases, so does the risk of lifelong negative outcomes.

### Illinois’s Head Start Workforce

9,483

HS and EHS jobs in Illinois

In Illinois, the average Head Start teacher with a bachelor’s degree makes **$37,135** per year, compared to an average kindergarten teacher salary of **$55,850**.

### 2019 Illinois Head Start Profile

### Head Start Story

"Before Head Start, I did not have a plan for my own life, let alone, my daughter’s. With Head Start and with the advantage they provided to my family, I was able to better my life in ways words cannot express. Head Start is dedicated to helping children and families achieve educational, financial, and life goals that would otherwise seem unattainable."

Lauren Moss
Parent
The Head Start Advantage in Illinois

Demographics

- 639 pregnant women were served by Early Head Start
- 333 children with veteran / active military parents were served by Head Start
- 4,896 children with disabilities were served by Head Start
- 1,148 children in foster care were served by Head Start
- 2,155 children experiencing homelessness were served by Head Start
- 1,258 children in the care of grandparents or other relatives were served by Head Start

Services

- 39,636 children had continuously accessible health care
- 36,012 children had continuous access to dental care
- 3,677 parents advanced their education level
- 3,141 families received job training
- 11,901 families participated in health education
- 5,805 families received crisis intervention

Head Start in the Community

- 1,346 agreements between Head Start and local school districts
- 287 agreements with agencies to provide disability services to infants and toddlers
- 206 collaboration agreements with child welfare agencies

For more information, please visit: go.nhsa.org/Facts

Our mission is to coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.