HEAD START

Head Start is a publicly funded program that offers educational programs for children ages 3 to 5. It also offers nutritional services, prenatal services, health services, and parenting education to families with children under the age of 5. It is primarily for children from low-income families.

Sometimes a child who qualifies for a Preschool Special Education program may receive services in a Head Start classroom, even if the child’s family has an income exceeding the limit for Head Start. This can happen if the child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) team recommends the placement. This is fairly common because there are few other public preschool options for a child in need of special education services in an inclusive, typical preschool.

Head Start educational programs are designed to prepare children for kindergarten. They include activities and games designed to expose children to new experiences, to build basic academic skills, and to learn how to share and get along with others.

Head Start is administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Related Articles:

- Placement Options for Preschool Students Receiving Special Education Services
- Where Will My Child Receive Preschool Special Education Services