



Funding Stream Fact Sheet: Early Head Start

Source of Early Head Start Funds: The federal Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start.

Amount of Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership Funding: The amount of funding is subject to the appropriations passed by Congress and signed into law by the President each year. Annual appropriations could increase, decrease, or remain level over time.

In January of 2014, for example, Congress appropriated \$500 million to expand the number of early learning opportunities for infants and toddlers through Early Head Start grants. Funds were awarded in early 2015 through a competitive grant process. The FY 2016 appropriation includes \$135 million increase for expanding Early Head Start, including through Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships.

Each state is funded based on the number of young children in poverty and no less than 3% and 4.5% of total funds are for American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start programs and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs, respectively.

Intended Use of Early Head Start and Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership Funds: Early Head Start funds full-day/full-year, family-centered early care and education program for low-income infants and toddlers. The Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) funds expanded services for children through age four. Under EHS-CCP, new or existing Early Head Start grantees partner with regulated center-based or family child care providers who agree to meet the Head Start Program Performance Standards. The resulting partnerships allow programs to leverage their funds to provide more high quality early learning slots in their community.

Target Population:

- Low income infants and toddlers from birth through age four
- Parents/caregivers of children through age four
- Children with disabilities (must be a minimum of 10% of program enrollment)

Types of services funded include:

- Services that enhance the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of children, including:
 - Early education
 - Health services and education
 - Nutritional services
 - Behavioral services
 - Family support
- Continuous, intensive, and comprehensive child development and family support services

Examples of How FRCs/FSOs Use EHS-CCP Funds:

- Provides rent to FRCs that house EHS programs

- Family social events open to entire community
- Play groups in EHS communities
- Supports links to other FRC services for EHS families
- Recruitment for EHS – provides a way to engage families
- Financial self-sufficiency training for case management staff

Considerations for FRC/FSOs wanting to access/use EHS-CCP Funds:

Benefits	Potential Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting is not intensive - Annual information on types of children served and services, no progress reports required. • Funding is for 5-year periods, with funds available for a 12-month budget period (released by monthly allowance). • Applicants who propose a partnership with local child care providers and demonstrate strong alignment with other federally, state, or locally funded early childhood programs, receive competitive priority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires 20% non-federal matching funds • No more than 15% of total costs may be used for program administration. • Project budgets for the EHS-CC Partnership must reflect child care subsidies for no less than 25% of the proposed slots. • Both EHS expansion and EHS-CCP grantees must follow Early Head Start Program Performance Standards. • Early Head Start funds may not supplant or replace previously existing funds, but may only be used to expand services or improve existing services. • Because funding is awarded in 5-year periods, opportunity to apply for new funding occurs infrequently.

How Early Head Start Funding/EHS-CCP is Allocated: Funds for local Head Start/Early Head Start programs are awarded by the Office of Head Start's Regional Offices. All funds are awarded directly to the grantees through competitively awarded grants. Funds for the following are awarded by the Central Office of Head Start: American Indian and Alaskan Native programs; Migrant programs; research, demonstration, and evaluation efforts and some training and technical assistance efforts.

Only high quality applications are funded. Priority is given to applicants proposing EHS-CC Partnerships and ensuring continuity of services for children who are currently being served.

Awards are subject to availability of federal funds. Applicants must submit an annual 12-month budget. Successful applicants are awarded a grant with a project period of five years.

Stakeholder Participation:

The Office of Head Start (OHS), which is part of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), oversees the operation of all Head Start grants. Funding of Head Start and Early Head Start is determined through the federal budgeting process. As such, participation in overall program decision-making is best achieved by communicating with your congressional representative. Head Start/Early Head Start has twelve regional offices across the country, one of which is located in San Francisco. To learn about opportunities to provide input or participate in regional efforts, contact the San Francisco office (see below for contact information).

Oversight and Accountability: All programs funded through Early Head Start are required to comply with [Head Start Program Performance Standards](#). Ongoing oversight and intensive technical assistance is provided to all grantees during the first 18 months of the grant award to

ensure appropriate implementation of the program. The formal monitoring process and Designation Renewal System (DRS) will take place after the first 18 months of the grant.

How Can My Program Access Early Head Start Funding?

The Administration for Children and Families solicits applications from public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based organizations, or for-profit organizations that wish to compete for funds that are available to provide Early Head Start services to infants, toddlers, and pregnant women.

Applicants have the choice of applying in *one* of three ways: 1) EHS-CC Partnerships 2) Non-Partnership Early Head Start Expansion or 3) mix of both EHS-CC Partnerships and Expansion. However, applicants may submit only one application per service area.

All OHS funding opportunities are available on the [ACF Funding Opportunity Announcements website](#), and can be found by searching CFDA Number 93.600 on [Grants.gov](#).

Find out more about the use of this funding stream in your county:

Contact your Regional Program Manager:

Jan Len

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San Francisco Regional Office
90 – 7th Street, Ninth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 437-8447

Locate Head Start programs near you:

eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices

Head Start funding overview and links:

eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/grants/grant-toolkit/funding.html

List of current funding/grant announcements:

acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/office/ohs

Head Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center:

eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/grants/ehs-ccp

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships Fact Sheet:

zerotothree.org/policy/docs/ehs-child-care-partnerships-fact-sheet-ztt-04-04-2014.pdf

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership overview:

acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/eclkc/ehs_cc_partnership_grant_powerpoint.pdf