

Head Start Grant

Purpose of Funds: The Head Start program provides grants to local public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families. Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the social, cognitive, physical and emotional development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. Head Start programs engage parents in their children's learning and help them in making progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals. The intended use of these specific funds are for cost of living adjustments and quality improvements.

Receiving Department: Mayor's Office for Education and Children

Amount: \$487,000

Type of Grant: Formula

Estimated Jobs Created/Retained: 1 temporary management position created as well as new funding for 3.35 additional workers.

Number of Children Served: Currently, there are 1,083 children enrolled in the Head Start Program.

Proposed Spending:

The grant provides Head Start with the ability to offer comprehensive services to eligible 3 and 4 year old children and their families to help with positive preschool development. These services include programs for education, family services, children with disabilities, health, dental and nutrition. Also, this grant will help improve playgrounds, provide training to improve staff qualifications, and allocate additional spending on mental health services, speech, language and hearing assessments. The Head Start Grant will provide financing for the retention and reduction of turnover on the staff.

Along with Head Start, this grant will also unite numerous other City and Non-Profit Organizations such as Catholic Charities, Clayton Family Futures, Denver Public Schools, Mile High Montessori Early Learning Centers and Volunteers of America.

For more information, please see the oversight committee docs at
<http://www.denvergov.org/stimulus>