HHS ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES | 2026

Before you can enroll your child/children in the Head Start program; you must meet the US Department of Health and Human Services income guidelines. For example, for a family of 4, the total household income must be at or below $33,000. Head Start of Greater Dallas will however accept families that are over this guideline by 10% only after all income eligible families are served.

2026 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and The District of Colombia (Annual)

Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline
1	$15,960
2	$21,640
3	$27,320
4	$33,000
5	$38,680
6	$44,360
7	$50,040
8	$55,720

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $5,680 for each additional person.

2026 Poverty Guidelines for Alaska (Annual)

Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline
1	$19,950
2	$27,050
3	$34,150
4	$41,250
5	$48,350
6	$55,450
7	$62,550
8	$69,650

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $7,100 for each additional person.

2026 Poverty Guidelines for Hawaii (Annual)

Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline
1	$18,360
2	$24,890
3	$31,420
4	$37,950
5	$44,480
6	$51,010
7	$57,540
8	$64,070

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $6,530 for each additional person.