

Huron County Great Start Readiness and Head Start Programs
Helping children prepare for success in Kindergarten and beyond!

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS – APPLY NOW

Research shows that children who have high quality preschool experiences are more prepared for Kindergarten, perform at a higher level throughout school, are more likely to graduate high school, and have a greater chance of attending college and ultimately become more productive citizens.

There are tuition free preschool programs throughout Huron County for children 3 and 4 years of age. **The Great Start Readiness and Head Start Programs in Huron County are now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year.**

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a program funded by state government for children who are 4 years of age by September 1 of the school year for which they apply. Head Start is funded by the federal government and serves children 3-5 years of age and their families. Each local school district in Huron County has a GSRP and Head Start that services students in their district. There are tuition free preschool programs in Bad Axe at the Huron Learning Center and at Caseville, Harbor Beach, Lakers, North Huron, and Owen-Gage Schools. Ugly students are currently being served at one of the Bad Axe or Harbor Beach programs, however, if there are enough Head Start eligible children who apply for preschool from the Ugly district, there will likely be a classroom within the city limits.

To be income eligible for the Great Start Readiness Program a family's income must be at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level which equates to \$61,500 for a family of four. To be income eligible for Head Start a family's income must be at or below the Federal Poverty Level equating to \$24,600 for a family of four. For the income eligibility chart broken down by family size and income go to www.greatstarthuron.com. Children in foster care, those experiencing homelessness, or receiving social security income also qualify for free preschool. In addition to these factors a child with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may qualify for GSRP as well.

There is a single enrollment process for all GSRP and Head Starts in the county. Preschool placement is based on a child's age, family income, children's needs, and availability of programming. The state and federal governments have determined that government funded preschool programs will be available at no cost for families who meet the income eligibility requirements. To enroll your child call 989-269-6533 or visit www.greatstarthuron.com to complete an application online.

While Spring marks the official recruitment season for preschool, applications are accepted throughout the school year and children are enrolled in programs as placements becomes available if there is a waitlist. If you are unsure as to how to access preschool or for more information call the Great Start Collaborative office at 989-269-3485.