

What You Need To Apply

- Your child's birth certificate
- Your child's immunization records
- If you work, proof of your income (W-2 form, pay stubs, or a statement from your employer)
- If you attend school, proof of your student status
- Your driver's license or ID
- Your child's medical insurance information
- Proof of address

Call Us For More Information

Bergen County: 263 Lafayette Avenue, Cliffside Park • (201) 366-1020

Jersey City: 93 Nelson Avenue, Jersey City • (201) 884-1050

Paterson: 500 East 35th Street, Paterson • (973) 546-2634

OTHER PROGRAMS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU:

ETC (Adult Education & Training Center) - (973) 685-0005

ESL (English As a Second Language) • NEW Americans • HSE (High School Equivalency)

Home Energy Assistance- (201) 488-5100

Helping individuals through temporary utility payment challenges

Head Start is a program of



392 Main Street, Hackensack NJ 07601

Phone: (201) 968-0200

HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START

FREE QUALITY FULL DAY PRESCHOOL

FOR INFANTS, TODDLERS & CHILDREN AGE 0-5



GBCA HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START

Phone: (844) 472-4453

Office Hours 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday

www.GBCAHeadStart.org



"It benefits me in many ways. I can go food shopping and I can go to school, I can even take classes here. I'm grateful. I feel like my children are safe. There are social workers and nurses and there's a lot of supervision."

- Diana, Head Start Parent

Overview

At GBCA Head Start/Early Head Start, our goal is to not only get your child ready for kindergarten, but to prepare your entire family for life beyond the program. Our extensive services and resources range from early childhood education to health, nutrition, parent education, family counseling, financial counseling, and more.

GBCA Head Start is FREE for qualifying families in Bergen County, Jersey City and Paterson, NJ

Our Services Include

Education: Every day at GBCA Head Start, children prepare for kindergarten with activities and games that teach everything from letters and numbers, to sharing and getting along with others.

Nutrition: Students are provided nutritious, USDA-approved meals from a menu prepared by our in-house registered dietitians. We offer 31 specialized menus that are available to students who have dietary restrictions due to allergies or cultural needs.

Health: Free health, dental, vision, and height/weight screenings are done by medical professionals within the first 45 days of beginning the program.

Diversity: All of our schools are multilingual and include children and families from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

Special Needs: Children with disabilities are a welcome part of our program. Parents, teachers, and specialists all work together to develop a unique program for each child, both in classroom and at home.

Support: Each family is assigned its own family worker, and together they create a family partnership plan, which helps set life goals and the steps needed to accomplish them.

How We Do It

For The Child

We believe that children learn best through experiences. Children in Head Start have direct hands-on experiences with language, communication, math, creative arts, science, technology, and social studies. Our teachers help children explore many different types of play and learning in a safe and clean classroom.

We use the "High Scope" curriculum in Jersey City, and "Creative Curriculum" in Paterson and Bergen County, both of which align with state licensing standards. At Head Start, your child will get the same quality education he/she would receive at a public school, with the added bonus of our extensive family services and programs.

For The Parent

In addition to being assigned a family worker who will help them create a family partnership plan, families are offered an array of support services and education opportunities, including: a father's support group; parent activities; USA Citizenship; English as a Second Language; and High School Equivalency classes; cooking and nutrition workshops; parenting classes; and referrals to community partnerships.

Also available is our Pregnant Mom's program, which offers supportive prenatal and postpartum guidance, parenting and nutrition classes, and home visits to help families prepare for the addition of the newborn in the home.

