FAQ about Marathon County Child Development Agency

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE HEAD START PROGRAM?**

Children are eligible for enrollment if they were three years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year or the school year the application is being submitted for. Eligibility is also determined if the family’s total yearly income for the past or current year is less than the following amounts for the number of family members shown below (total yearly income includes wages, self-employment, social security, disability benefits, alimony, child support, student financial aid/scholarships, and unemployment compensation):

 $13,590 for 1 (foster child) $32,470 for 5 family members

 $18,310 for 2 family members $37,190 for 6 family members

 $23,030 for 3 family members $41,910 for 7 family members

 $27,750 for 4 family members $46,630 for 8 family members \*

\*For family units with more than 8 members, add $4,720 for each additional member.

\*\*Children may also meet eligibility if they are a foster child; if the family receives Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or child receives Social Security Income (SSI); or if the child has a special need diagnosed by a specialist.

**HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE HEAD START PROGRAM?**

You can apply on our website [www.mccdahs.org](http://www.mccdahs.org) or paper applications are available at our Barrington location (616 Grant St, Wausau, WI 54403).

**Items needed to register for Head Start:**

**Application filled out;** the child applying must be three years old by September 1st of the current year.

**Documentation of any other income received** that is not reported on the income taxes (ex: child support, social security, etc.)

**If** a family member in the household receives:

* **Food Share; SSI; or if child is in Foster Care or Kinship Care**

 \*We would need to see documentation to possibly qualify without verifying income\*



**Documentation of the gross income for the family:** A copy of the first page of the 1040 income taxes form (page that shows the person(s) filing, dependents, and adjusted gross income for 2021.

**Copy of Birth Certificate or immunization record** to verify your child’s date of birth.

**WHEN DOES SCHOOL BEGIN?**

Our school year begins when the local school districts begin. Although we “follow the school district” for our start and end dates each school year our days off school may vary a bit.

**WHAT ARE HOME VISITS AND ARE THEY REQUIRED**?

Before a child begins our program, we will conduct two registration home visits (one with our case manager and one with your child’s teacher). The registration visit is an opportunity to get to know the teacher and begin building your relationship.

Head Start believes **parents/family members** are a child's **first and most important teachers**, so yes, home visits are required. Home visits are like a parent/teacher conference except they happen in the home. Generally, a family would meet with the teacher two times a year (November and May) and their case manager two times (time decided upon by the family and case manager).

**WHEN WILL MY CHILD BE ATTENDING SCHOOL?**

Our program is Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm during the regular school year (September- early June). We follow the school district’s calendar for days off.

**IS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?**

We do offer limited bus transportation at our Stoddard and Barrington sites based on the requested address and availability.

We do not offer bussing at our KM Czech location; if your child is registered as a 4K student, the school district would provide bussing to and from our program each program day.