



**We are accepting applications for the
2021 – 2022 school year!**



Step 1: Application

Family submits an application online at explorershs.org/enrollment or can call our main office, 406-245-7233, for assistance.



Step 2: Eligibility

Program staff meet with the family to review application and collect previous 12 months of income, birth certificate, and immunization record. Application is reviewed for eligibility.



(If needed) Step 3: Health Information

If needed the application is reviewed for any special accommodations. The family is contacted via phone or mail and involved in the process.



Step 4: Priority and Waitlist

The application is assigned priority points based on the Selection Criteria, which is designed so that the program serves the children with the greatest need first. The application is placed on the waitlist and the family is notified via mail.



Step 5: Assignment & Enrollment

When an opening occurs, the application with the highest priority is assigned to the vacancy. The family is contacted to complete any necessary paperwork and meet with the teaching team. Then the child is ready to start school!

QUESTIONS?

CALL: 406-869-1226

EMAIL: ANNAM@EXPLORERSHS.ORG



How do I qualify for Explorers Academy – A Head Start program?

Children ages 3-4 that meet at least ONE of the following criteria:



Income

Families that earn less than the federal income guidelines are eligible for Head Start. Families must provide documentation verifying their income from the last calendar year or the last 12 months.



TANF or SSI

Families that receive TANF or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are automatically eligible. Families must provide documentation showing they are currently receiving TANF or SSI.



Foster Care

Children in foster care are automatically eligible. Foster parents must provide documentation, such as a placement letter.



Homelessness

Children who are experiencing homelessness are automatically eligible. Families can provide a letter or statement from a homeless services provider or complete a self-declaration form at our main office.



Additional Options

Income requirements may be waived (up to 10% of program enrollment) for applications that are "over-income" if the child has a diagnosed disability, is transitioning from Early Head Start to Head Start, or has a significant need to attend.

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