

Head Start began nationally in 1964 as a federally-funded program. At that time, the Schenectady City School District ran a Head Start summer program. In September 1966, SCAP took over operations and expanded the program to serve families county-wide. Today, SCAP operates four Head Start programs that run from September to June and is commensurate with the school year:

Bigelow Avenue Head Start

100 Bigelow Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12304

Glen Worden School Head Start

30 Worden Road
Scotia, NY 12302

Bellevue Head Start Center

2000 Broadway
Schenectady, NY 12306

Yates Village Head Start Center

2450 VanVranken Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12308

“*My daughter is recognized at school for her reading ability. Head Start gave her the skills and the confidence to succeed.*”



SCAP Head Start
100 Bigelow Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12304

Schenectady Community Action Program, Inc.
Offering hope and help to individuals and families in need of assistance due to homelessness, unemployment or poverty.



Helping People. Changing Lives. Strengthening Communities.

Head Start

Where Success Begins

A pre-school program for children aged three to five who are living below the poverty line, to prepare them for kindergarten and continued success in school.



www.scapny.org



Head Start is a comprehensive pre-school program for children aged three to five. It enriches the children's learning experience and prepares them for kindergarten and continued success in school. Children who are enrolled receive quality pre-school education that is proven to make a difference and exceeds national standards for early childhood education as established by the federal government.

Eligibility

To be eligible, a family's income must be below the federal poverty guidelines. If you have questions about your eligibility, call SCAP's main office at 518-374-9181 or SCAP's Head Start office at 518-377-8539. Also, visit the national Health and Human Services website at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty>.



How to Enroll

To enroll your pre-school child, you must first complete an application which can be mailed to you on request by calling SCAP's Head Start office at 518-377-8539. Also, you may pick up an application from the SCAP Head Start office at 100 Bigelow Avenue, Schenectady or at SCAP's main office at 913 Albany Street, Schenectady. For your application to be processed, you must submit the following documentation:

- proof of your child's age (copy of birth certificate)
- proof of your family's annual income:
 - pay stubs from each parent for the previous year, or
 - copy of SSI payment receipts, or
 - copy of current income tax return, or
 - copy of the payment receipt for unemployment insurance or disability payments, and
 - proof of any other income your family receives.
- For foster children, the only proof of income required is documentation of the stipend amount received from DSS or other placement agency.

“ My son is not so shy anymore and he can't wait to start kindergarten next year! ”

Education Services

The main goal of Head Start is to ensure your child is ready to start school. To achieve this, the program focuses on early childhood education, fosters social and emotional growth, and places an emphasis on family support. Children who are enrolled receive a quality pre-school education that is proven to make a difference in the child's development when entering kindergarten. The program exceeds strict standards for early childhood education as established by the federal and state government.

Health Services

SCAP health professionals work with families to ensure that each child receives the appropriate health and dental check-ups. Also, we will connect you to a health care provider, if needed. For children with disabilities, we provide speech, occupational therapy and physical therapy onsite.

SCAP Services

Head Start families have access to SCAP's family resource center, crisis intervention assistance and employment services. SCAP offers help and hope to individuals and families in need of assistance due to homelessness, unemployment or poverty.

Family Resource Center

Many families choose to stay engaged with SCAP after their child completes Head Start and continue to receive access to the full range of SCAP services. In addition, SCAP can facilitate "Family Team Conferences" to help families and professionals stay connected and work together to achieve the family's goals.