

Email to members of Congress and ACF to expedite Head Start grants

Email to send to ACF

To: Laurie.Smith@acf.hhs.gov

CC: Shawna.Pinckney@acf.hhs.gov

Dear Dr. Todd-Smith,

I am reaching out to request that ACF expedite grants to Head Start programs that were due to receive their annual funding during the government shutdown. As you know, at least 20 programs have temporarily closed due to lack of funding with many more struggling to stay afloat and considering imminent closures.

I request that ACF take two immediate steps to expedite grants:

- Waive the 7 day Congressional hold to get grants to programs faster.
- Notify all 10/1 and 11/1 programs that they will receive their federal Head Start funds, the amount, and an approximate date for the award. This step will allow Head Start programs to budget or seek loans with confidence that federal funding will be available soon.

Thank you for your quick attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Email to send to Congress

Dear [Senator/Representative],

I am reaching out to seek your assistance in urging the Administration for Children and Families and the Office of Head Start to expedite grants to Head Start programs that were due to receive their annual funding during the government shutdown. As you know, at least 20 programs have temporarily closed due to lack of funding with many more struggling to stay afloat and considering imminent closures.

[Add information on how the shutdown continues to impact programs in your state/region]

I request that you contact Dr. Laurie Todd-Smith, deputy assistant secretary for early childhood development at laurie.smith@acf.hhs.gov and request that ACF take two immediate steps to expedite grants:

- Waive the 7 day Congressional hold to get grants to programs faster.

- Notify all 10/1 and 11/1 programs that they will receive their federal Head Start funds, the amount, and an approximate date for the award. This step will allow Head Start programs to budget or seek loans with confidence that federal funding will be available soon.

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