

Federal Shutdown, 2025

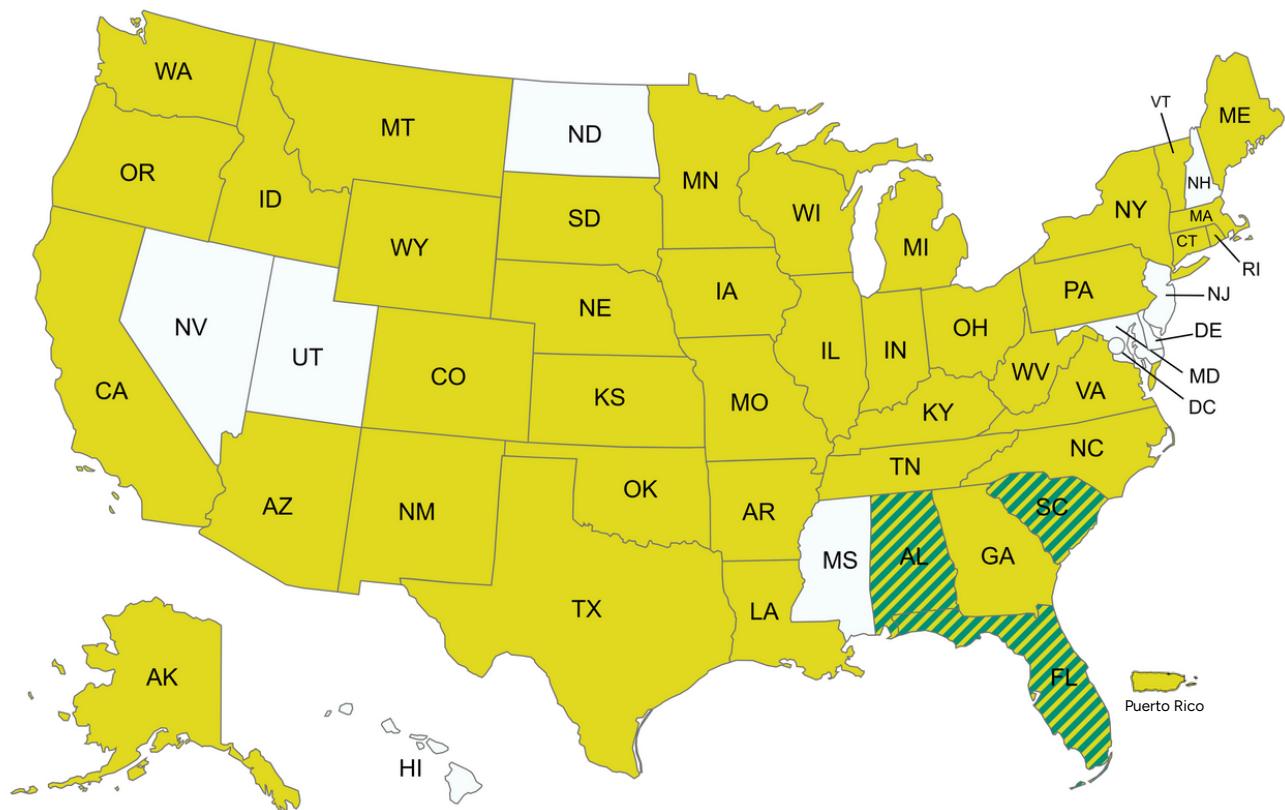
Funding and Head Start Programs

October 2025

Federal funding for Head Start programs is dispersed on a staggered grant cycle, meaning different programs receive their funding at different times throughout the year. (One Head Start program may operate multiple Head Start sites, each with a set number of “funded slots” available for eligible children.) During a shutdown, this funding is not dispersed, putting many Head Start programs in immediate jeopardy of closing their doors.

- When the federal shutdown began on October 1st, Head Start programs located in **3 states** did not receive their operational funding. These programs serve **more than 6,000 young children**.
- If the shutdown persists, on November 1st, Head Start programs located in **40+ states and Puerto Rico** will not receive their operational funding. These programs serve **nearly 60,000 children**.
- Taken together, this missed funding will impact Head Start programs which work with an **estimated 65,000 young children** in **40+ states** across the nation.

When Head Start programs are forced to close, children lose access to the care, early learning, nutrition, and stability Head Start provides. Here’s what this looks like across the states:



Federal Shutdown 2025

Impact: Head Start Programs Missing Funding

 October 1st funding missed 3 states More than 6,000 children	 November 1st funding missed 41 states + Puerto Rico Nearly 60,000 children	October + November Total 41 states + Puerto Rico An estimated 65,000 children
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Impact: Head Start Programs with October 1 Funding

State	Number of Slots for Children
AL	324
FL	5,553
SC	448

Impact: Head Start Programs with November 1 Funding

State	Number of Slots for Children
AK	189
AL	358
AR	1,488
AZ	210
CA	830
CO	1,642
CT	395
FL	4,202
GA	6,026
IA	623
ID	161
IL	335
IN	2,470
KS	331

State	Number of Slots for Children
KY	2,581
LA	1,344
MA	2,723
ME	170
MI	3,064
MN	1,343
MO	3,822
MT	133
NC	4,525
NE	899
NM	250
NY	1,644
OH	3,663
OK	2,486

State	Number of Slots for Children
OR	2,630
PA	249
PR	125
RI	188
SC	410
SD	265
TN	267
TX	1,933
VA	502
VT	242
WA	3,248
WI	391
WV	111
WY	114

NOTE: These numbers may change as individual site data continues to be updated..

For More Information

Policy

Amanda Guarino
aguarino@ffyf.org

Government Relations

Sarah Rubinfeld
srubinfeld@ffyf.org

Communications

Christy Felling
cfelling@ffyf.org