California’s minimum wage will reach $15/hour in 2021, making nearly all working families ineligible for Head Start.

By 2021, most California families will not be eligible for Head Start:

- One full time parent¹ with one kid = $16,910 over income.
- One part-time parent² with one kid = $4,690 over income.
- One full time parent with two kids = $6,670 over income.
- One part-time parent with two kids = $270 over income.
- One full-time parent and one unemployed parent with two kids = $2,250 over income.
- Two part-time parents³ with three kids = $13,030 over income.

Families that will be eligible for Head Start in 2021:

- One part-time parent with three kids.
- One full time parent with four kids.
- Two part-time parents with five kids.
- One full-time parent and one unemployed parent with three kids.

¹ Full time parent is defined as 40 hours/week. ² Part-time parent is defined as 30 hours/week. ³ Two part-time parents is defined as working 60 hours/week total.
Number of additional kids that would be eligible for Head Start if income eligibility was aligned with MediCal eligibility.

15,000 additional kids would qualify for Head Start if the income threshold was increased by $5,000.

An additional 20,000 kids would qualify if the income threshold was increased by $10,000.

**Colusa COE**
10 families were denied Head Start services in 2018 for being just $1,000 over income.
14 families were denied in 2018 for being $5,000 over income.

**Contra Costa COE**
373 families denied Head Start services for being $1,000 over income.
641 families denied for being $5,000 over income.

**Stanislaus COE**
19 families denied services in 2018 for being $1,000 over income.
159 families denied in 2018 for being $5,000 over income.

EVEN IN RURAL CALIFORNIA, THE FEDERAL HEAD START INCOME THRESHOLD IS TOO LOW.