



Head Start

May 22, 2024

**North
Idaho
College**

► ***nic.edu***

What is Head Start

- Head Start is a federally-funded program that provides service in five northern counties of Idaho.
- The program promotes school readiness of children ages 3 to 5 – the two crucial years before they are age-eligible for kindergarten.
- Priority is given to limited income families, homeless families, foster children, families that receive public assistance and children with disabilities.
- Provide comprehensive education, health and nutrition services to children and their families.

Locations

Boundary County

Bonner County

Kootenai County

Benewah County

Shoshone County

Julien Bucher Early Learning Center

Sandpoint Head Start

Community Early Learning Center

Harding Head Start

Lakeland Head Start

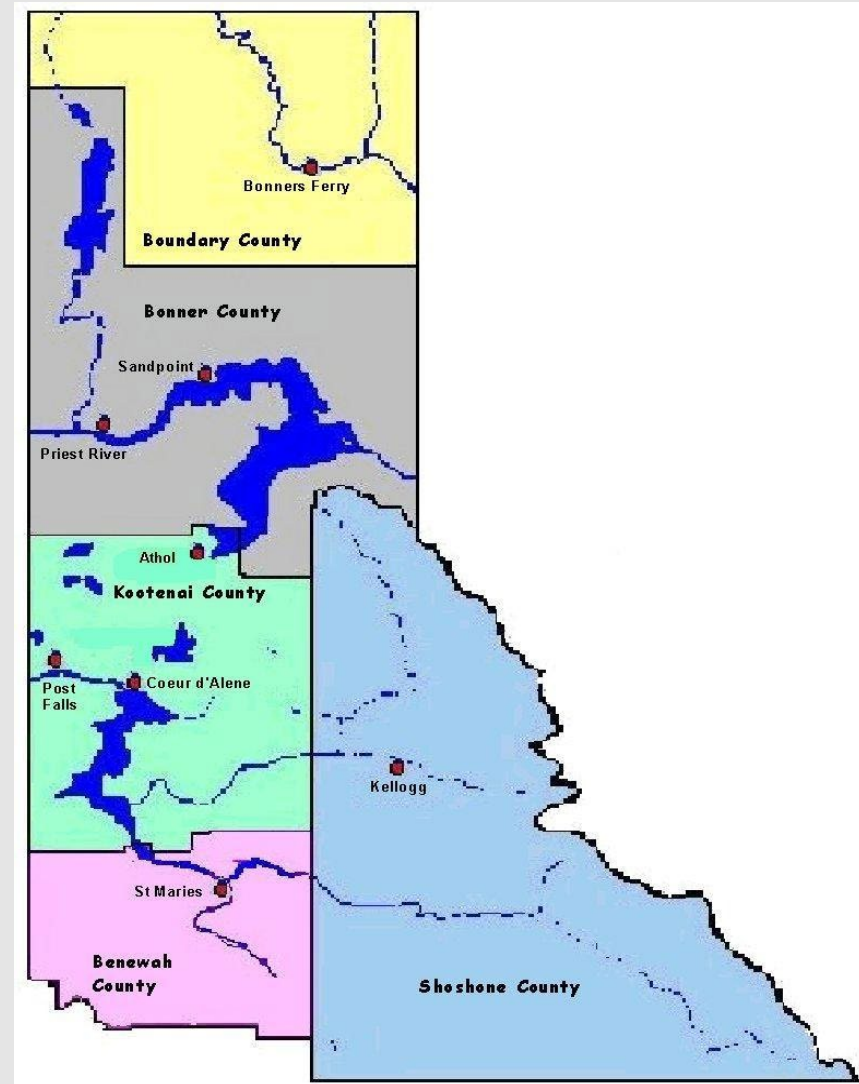
Post Falls Head Start

NIC Children's Center

St. Maries Head Start

UpRiver Head Start

Shoshone Head Start



FA Two Federal Monitoring Review

- Review was held the week of March 11.
- Program deemed compliant in Fiscal, Program Design and Management (which includes Shared Governance).
- Strong practice notations for Education and Child Development, Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance, Health Services, Family and Community Engagement Services.
- One minor non-compliance item noted. Working on resolution.

NIC Head Start Statistics

- Served 259 students through the program in 2024
 - 30% of enrolled families have experienced homelessness this school-year.
 - 15% of enrolled children have identified disabilities.
 - More than 90% of families accessed nutrition education, health education and parenting curriculum services
- FY25 COLA increase – 2.35% increase to wage and fringe.
- New Head Start center in Fernwood, Idaho. Opened May 14.