

Early Head Start Home-Based Option

[Early Head Start Home-Based Option](#) (EHS) provides individualized services to pregnant women, infants, and toddlers to promote the school readiness of young children from families with low incomes. The model is administered by the Office of Head Start in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Children and Families. EHS promotes the school readiness of children from birth to 3 years old by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development.

<p>What is the model's approach to providing home visiting services?</p>	<p>Home visits take place weekly. Services are provided until the child is 3 years old. There are no age requirements for when families should begin services.</p> <p>EHS' service population includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Families with low incomes  Caregivers under 21 years old  Caregivers with limited access to education  Children with developmental delays or disabilities  Children with special health care needs  Families with a history of substance use or in need of treatment  Families with a history of child abuse or neglect/involvement with child welfare system  Children in foster care
<p>Who is implementing the model?</p>	<p>Home Visitors</p> <p>The model requires a home-based Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, comparable credential, or equivalent coursework as part of an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. Home visitors are required to maintain an average caseload of 10 to 12 families.</p> <p>Supervisors</p> <p>The model requires a bachelor’s or other advanced degree with coursework in early childhood education and early education experience for supervisors.</p>
<p>Where is the model implemented?</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>EHS operated in 870 local agencies across 50 states and the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2020.</p> </div>

The NHVRC is led by James Bell Associates in partnership with the Urban Institute. Support is provided by the Heising-Simons Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the foundations. For details about the methodology, see the *2021 Home Visiting Yearbook*.

