

**TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION  
FOR HEAD START CONTINUATION FUNDS FOR FY 2025-2026**

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**A COUNCIL BILL**

**TO APPROVE** the renewal of the application for the grant for the FY 2025-26 Choctaw Nation Head Start Program funding made available to American Indian and Alaskan Native Head Start Programs by the Department of Health and Human Service Administrative of Children and Families Office of Head Start.

**WHEREAS**, approval by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the "Council") is required by the U.S. Health and Human Services Administration of Children and Families Office of Head Start (HHS), to submit a proposal for continuation of the program during November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026;

**WHEREAS**, this Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Head Start Program (the "Program") serves children ages 3 and 4 from low income families;

**WHEREAS**, the Program provides comprehensive services to children and families in education, disabilities, mental health, nutrition, health, social and family services;

**WHEREAS**, approved budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be set by HHS in the amount of \$4,494,048.

**WHEREAS**, a 20% match is required to be a recipient of the funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nation commits to a 20% match in the amount of \$1,123,512.

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council finds it is in the best interest of the Nation to approve the application for the FY2025-2026 Choctaw Nation Head Start Program Continuation Funding made available to American Indian and Alaskan Native Head Start Programs by the Department of Health & Human Services Administration of Children and Families Office of Head Start.

**THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval to submit a proposal and application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the continuation funding for the Choctaw Nation Head Start Program for FY 2025-2026 made available to American Indian and Alaskan Native Head Start Programs by the Department of Health & Human Services Administration of Children and Families Office of Head Start.

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as approval of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Head Start Program Budget in the amount of \$4,494,048, including a required 20% match for a total \$5,617,560.

**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED** by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as an acknowledgement that the Chief of the Nation, or his designee, is authorized to prepare, execute, deliver and file any and all agreements, certificates, instruments and documents, in such form and with such terms and provisions as the Chief of the Nation, or his designee, may approve, and to take such other action as he, she or they may deem proper or appropriate, to carry out the intent and purposes of the foregoing enactments.


**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that eleven ( 11 ) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on ( July 12, 2025 ). I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 77 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven ( 11 ) members, zero ( 0 ) negative votes, and zero ( 0 ) abstaining.

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FOR HEAD START CONTINUATION FUNDS FOR FY2025-2026**

  
Secretary  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
Thomas Williston, Speaker  
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council

  
Gary Batton, Chief  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 7-17-25

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**Purpose/Need of Council Bill:** The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Head Start program serves children ages 3 and 4 from low-income families. It provides comprehensive services to children and families in education, disabilities, mental health, nutrition, health, social, and family services to help prepare them for public school. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Head Start proposes to utilize the Continuation funding to pay for Head Start staff salaries and training. This council bill will allow the Nation to achieve its strategic goal to support service delivery to improve tribal members' quality of life. The Head Start program provides education and services to tribal members' children and families that help to improve the quality of life and tribal member self-sufficiency and independence.

**Title of Council Bill:** TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR HEAD START CONTINUATION FUNDS FOR FY 2025-2026

**Agency:** United States Department of Health and Human Services

**CONTINUATION FUNDS**

**Budget:** \$4,494,048 (See exhibit A).

**Match Required:** \$1,123,512 (The total match will be met by 26 Interlocal salaries we already pay). We are not asking for additional funds from the tribe. (See exhibit B).

**Request by/Project Director:** Sarah Snow, Head Start Director; Teresa Jackson, SEO