MASSACHUSETTS
HEAD START ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR

2026
-
2027

SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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JANUARY 2027

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FEBRUARY 2027

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MARCH 2027

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APRIL 2027

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JULY 2027

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AUGUST 2027

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MASSACHUSETTS
HEAD START ASSOCIATION

2026 - 2027 Calendar

www.massheadstart.org

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHO SHOULD ATTEND	PRICING	REGISTRATION
MHSA Directors' Circle	October 29	10:30 am - 11:30 am	enVision Hotel Mansfield-Foxborough	Leading a Head Start program has never been more complex—and you don't have to navigate it alone. The MHSA Directors' Circle is a monthly community of practice designed to connect Head Start directors with peers who understand the challenges, uncertainties, and rewards of leading a program today. Guided by Kristen Hayes, monthly meetings will focus on meaningful community-building, skill development, and practical problem-solving. Come with questions, leave with new ideas and a community to lean on.	Massachusetts Head Start Directors	$540 for the series	Register Here
MHSA Annual Conference Day 1	October 29	12:00 PM - 6:30 pm	enVision Hotel Mansfield-Foxborough	All Head Start leaders and managers are invited to join us for day 1.	Head Start leadership teams	$125/members $150/non-members	Register Here
MHSA Annual Conference Day 2	October 30	TBD	enVision Hotel Mansfield-Foxborough	All staff and Head Start parents are invited to join us for day 2.	All Head Start staff, parents	$300/members $350/non-members	Register Here
Professionalism and Communication	December 8	9:30 am - 11:30 am	Virtual	with Scott Noyes Part one ~ Professionalism in Early Education Part two ~ Communicating with Confidence & Clarity	All Head Start Staff	$85/members $100/non-members	Register Here
Autism Series Session 1: Autism in Early Childhood: A Deep Dive	January 7	9:30 am - 11:00 am	3-part virtual series with The Autism Project from Brown University Health	"Autism in Early Childhood: A Deep Dive" is designed to provide participants with up-to-date information on the neurodevelopmental characteristics of autism. This workshop is appropriate for those who are new to autism, as well as for those with decades of experience. Topics are broken down into the following categories: diagnostic criteria, coexisting medical conditions, social communication, sensory processing, and cognition. Participants will leave this workshop with a deeper understanding of the unique influence of neurodevelopment on each autistic individual. "Autism in Early Childhood: A Deep Dive" celebrates autistic people while discussing the unique characteristics that require a supportive and empathetic environment.	All Head Start Staff	$150/members $180/non-members (pricing is for all 3 parts)	Registration Coming Soon

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EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHO SHOULD ATTEND	PRICING	REGISTRATION
Advocacy Day	February 9	TBD	Massachusetts State House	Join Head Start staff, parents, advocates, and legislators to show your support for Head Start in Massachusetts and advocate for your Head Start program! Deliver Valentines to your legislators and tell them about the impacts of Head Start in your community.	All Head Start staff, parents, advocates, and partners	Free	Registration Coming Soon
Autism Series Session 2: Sensing Our World: How the 8 Sensory Systems Impact Regulation	February 4	9:30 am - 11:00 am	3-part virtual series with The Autism Project from Brown University Health	Most autistic people experience the world in an atypical way. Some may be hypersensitive to input. Others are hyposensitive. Most are a combination of these two sensory responses. Participants will discuss the 8 sensory systems, the impact of atypical modulation on the experience of sensory input, and strategies to assist with regulation.	All Head Start Staff	$150/members $180/non-members (pricing is for all 3 parts)	Registration Coming Soon
Autism Series Session 3: Visual Supports and Proactive Behavior Strategies in Early Childhood	March 4	9:30 am - 11:00 am	3-part virtual series with The Autism Project from Brown University Health	This training combines the power of visual supports with proactive behavior strategies to create inclusive, supportive environments where autistic children can thrive. Participants will explore how visual tools can be used to address executive functioning challenges, support communication, ease transitions, and build independence across daily activities. The session will also examine the relationship between regulation and behavior, helping professionals reframe "challenging behavior" as communication and respond with proactive, skill-building supports. Through practical examples and strategies, participants will learn how visual supports, social narratives, schedules, and other proactive interventions can be used to teach key skills, reduce barriers to participation, and foster positive interactions across home, school, and community settings.	All Head Start Staff	$150/members $180/non-members (pricing is for all 3 parts)	Registration Coming Soon

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EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	WHO SHOULD ATTEND	PRICING	REGISTRATION
Annual Meeting	March 19		Pine Ridge Country Club	Join for our Annual Meeting. We will celebrate and reflect on the last year in Head Start and MHSA and present annual awards.	All MHSA Members		Registration Coming Soon
Spring Summit	May 25			Join us for our annual Spring summit for all Head Start staff to refresh, energize, and learn.	All Head Start Staff		Registration Coming Soon