Who We Serve

Texas funded 31 local programs that served 1791 families that were considered to be “most in need” of family literacy services.

Community Support

**Even Start Family Literacy Programs are supported by the community.** Even Start funds are matched by local communities to provide the full array of family literacy services. Texas programs are supported by local share contributions for adult literacy and ESL instruction, early childhood assessment and intervention services, facilities and school district transportation.

The most frequently reported sources of local share include Title I Part A, adult education funds through the Workforce Investment Act, private foundations, local school districts, non-profit organizations, corporations, other state and federal grants and Head Start/Early Head Start.

**Texas Even Start Funds**

- **Even Start Funds**: 47%
- **Non-Even Start Funds**: 50%
- **Technical Assistance & Administration**: 3%

**Texas is committed to Even Start** as a way to ensure that all children enter school ready to learn. Research has shown that preschool children who are enrolled in Even Start for three months or more score significantly higher on developmental tests than newly enrolled children. The more their parents participate in Even Start, the higher the children score.

**The Even Start Family Literacy Program** is designed to break the cycle of poverty and low literacy in families. Even Start provides services and support to at-risk families so they can be successful at work, at school and in their communities. In Even Start, children and their parents learn together.

**What makes Even Start Unique?** Even Start is a one-stop family intervention program. Parents learn that they are their children's first and most important teachers. Parents acquire basic skills, including English and life skills, and have the opportunity to earn a high school credential. They learn how to be educational role models for their children and learn strategies to support their children's learning. Even Start provides a rich early childhood education for children age birth through 7 while their parents attend basic skills and life skills classes. Children and parents learn together through interactive literacy activities at school and at home.

Texas Even Start achieved required quality indicators, thereby earning a rating of 16 out of 16 **COMMENDED**

- 14-16 indicators - COMMENDED
- 10-11 indicators - MET STANDARDS
- 12-13 indicators - RECOGNIZED
- <10 indicators - BELOW STANDARDS
**Children’s Achievements**

**School readiness** is a major objective of the Even Start Program. Children ages 0-3 years are screened for developmental delays and referred to local agencies when appropriate. Research-based curriculum and a well-trained staff provide for a rich learning environment. Families and their children are provided intensive educational services with the end result of increased success for school-aged children.

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**Early Childhood Achievements**

- Screening: 87% (Even Start), 85% (Texas Standard), 92% (Oral English (PPVT))
- Oral English (PPVT): 70% (Even Start)

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**Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Achievements**

- School Attendance: 90% (Even Start), 85% (Texas Standard), 99% (School Promotion)
- School Promotion: 90% (Even Start), 99% (Reading Readiness/Reading)
- Reading Readiness/Reading: 75% (Even Start)

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**Parents’ Achievements**

Even Start parents attend classes in English as a second language or Adult Basic Education. See how our parents did last year compared to Texas standards in reading, language, math, oral ESL, and ESL literacy skills (as measured by the TABE or BEST/BEST Plus).

**Parent Academic Gains**

- Language: 75% (Even Start), 57% (Texas Standard)
- Math: 70% (Even Start), 59% (Texas Standard)
- Reading: 67% (Even Start), 57% (Texas Standard)
- ESL Oral: 71% (Even Start), 67% (Texas Standard)
- ESL Literacy: 85% (Even Start), 72% (Texas Standard)

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Even Start parents also attend parenting classes. This chart shows how our parents improved their parenting skills last year, as measured by the HOME Inventory.

**Parenting Achievements**

- 98% (Even Start), 70% (Texas Standard)

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Even Start parents spend many more hours in class than non-Even Start adult education students.

**Parent Attendance**

- Hours Attended: 227 (Even Start), 112 (Non Even Start)