



Hidalgo County Head Start Program
1901 W. State Hwy 107, McAllen TX 78504
(956) 383-0706 | hchsp.org

To: Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court
Head Start Policy Council
From: Irma Peña, Head Start Executive Director
Date: September 16, 2026
Subject: OHS - Improper Payment Review

Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and the Office of Head Start (OHS) require an Improper Payment Review in Head Start to identify any mistakes, ensure all appropriate documentation is submitted for all fiscal transactions, and to ensure that the federal grant is used for the intended purpose of the operation of Head Start.

All Head Start programs face audits under the ACF/OHS Improper Payment Review. Roughly 20% of the more than 1,600 programs nationwide are chosen for this audit for each cycle. The Hidalgo County Head Start Program (HCHSP) has been selected both years since the start of this process. HCHSP was notified that because of the size of our program, there is a high probability that HCHSP will always be part of the 20% sampling.

Attached is the notification of the 2026 Improper Payment Review report indicating that HCHSP received **no findings** and no further action is required. The 2025 Improper Payment Review also identified **no findings**.

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 **Office of Head Start / Head Start Enterprise System**


Child Incident Reporting will have a new look and feel after 09/14/2026

View Grant Correspondence

Grant Correspondence	
Subject	HSES Grantee - 06CH012134 - NOTIFICATION FY26 IMPROPER PAYMENT REVIEW
Sent	09/04/2026 10:47 PM, EDT
To:	RPM - Tabitha Temple <tabitha.temple@acf.hhs.gov> GMO - Jennifer Curtiss <jennifer.curtiss@acf.hhs.gov> Authorizing Official/Board Chair - Richard Cortez <richard.cortez@co.hidalgo.tx.us> CEO/Executive Director - Irma Pena <Irma.pena@hchsp.org> RPD - Tatia Long <tatia.long@acf.hhs.gov> Other - elma correra <elma.carrera@hchsp.org> Other - manhattan strategy <ohs-payment-review@manhattanstrategy.com>
Cc:	
Status	Received

From: Maria Cervera (mcervera@manhattanstrategy.com)**Grant Number:** 06CH012134**Grantee Name:** Hidalgo County Headstart Program Inc

In March 2026, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) conducted an improper payment review of sampled Head Start Programs. Attached, please find the improper payment review report issued to your Governing Board Chairperson as legal notice to your agency of the results of the payment integrity review.

Based on the information gathered during our assessment, a determination has been made that Hidalgo County Head Start Program has successfully completed the improper payment review and no further action is required.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please email ohs-payment-review@manhattanstrategy.com and OHSImproperPaymentReview@acf.hhs.gov. Sincerely,

Improper Payment Process Team
 Manhattan Strategy Group, LLC
 4747 Bethesda Avenue, Suite 1210
 Bethesda, MD 20814

Attachments: There are (1) attachment(s) related to this message available to be viewed or downloaded in HSES.

Please login to HSES (<https://hses.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/>) to view and respond.

To be able to log in and respond to a message in HSES under the Correspondence tab, you will need an account. If you do not yet have one, please contact the HSES Help Desk to obtain a user ID and password.

Attachments B-29, Hidalgo County Headstart Program Inc, FY26 No Findings Notice.pdf

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For assistance, please contact the HSES Help Desk at help@hsesinfo.org or call 1-866-771-4737 (toll-free) or 1-571-429-4858 (local), Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. EST
(not available on weekends or federal holidays)