

# Office of Head Start

## Administration for Children and Families



### **INTRODUCING THE HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FINAL RULE**

# Approach of the new HSPPS



The new Head Start Program Performance Standards:

- Provide research based program service requirements.
- Are written and presented clearly to support better program delivery for current and prospective grantees.
- Strengthen Education requirements and ensure all children will get the exposure to early learning they need to leave Head Start ready for school.



# What is new in these Regulations



## The new Head Start Program Performance Standards:

- Reduce administrative burden to allow grantees to focus on outcomes over process.
- Maintain core Head Start principles, including comprehensive services, parent engagement, enrolling the highest need children and valuing diversity.
- Using data for continuous quality improvement.





The new HSPPS has five clearly defined sections:

- Program Governance (1301)
- Program Operations (1302)
- Financial & Administrative Requirements (1303)
- Federal Administrative Procedures (1304)
- Definitions (1305)

# Increasing Duration



- More preschool age children will be enrolled for the full school year and full school day with more flexibility and more time to implement
  - Annual hour requirement (1,020 hours per year)
  - Gradually increasing duration over five years with option for HHS Secretary to reduce
- Codifies Early Head Start as a Continuous Program
  - 1,380 hours for center-based
  - 46 visits, 22 group socializations for home-based

# Strengthening Family Engagement



- **Family engagement strategies integrated throughout program systems and services**
- **Family partnership process**
  - Set individualized goals with families
  - Track program and family progress toward goals
- **Governance**
  - Parent Committees
  - Impasse Procedures



# Strengthening Education Services



- Education requirements reflect research and best practice and apply to ages birth to five.
- Requirements support effective teaching practices through a strong system of professional development.
- Curricula must be content-rich and follow a developmental scope and sequence.
- Screenings and assessments must provide data that is useful for individualizing instruction.
- Education services for home-based services are newly articulated.



# Supporting All Children



- Individualized and inclusive services for children with disabilities
- Improved services for homeless children
- Strength-based approach to services for dual language learners (DLLs)
- Increased attention to individual child attendance
- Explicitly addressing expulsion and suspension





# Strengthening Health Services



Retains core services and streamlines requirements so they are easier to implement

- Strengthens health services
- Strengthens mental health services
- Improves parent engagement services
- Continues to keep children safe and aligns with child care systems



# State Early Learning Systems



- Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
- State education data systems
- State pre-kindergarten
- Agencies responsible for IDEA
- Alignment with CCDF



# Time Table



- Most provisions are effective 60 days from publication
- Some provisions have later compliance dates:
  - Duration provisions
  - Some of the curricula requirements
  - Some of the assessment requirements
  - Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS)
  - State data systems
  - Complete background check procedures
  - Coordinated coaching strategy
  - Management of program data
  - Home visitor staff qualifications

# Supporting implementation



Resources and supports will be provided, including:

- The Performance Standards Showcase
  - Coming soon on the ECLKC
- OHS Webinar series
  - The third Wednesday of every month at 2-3:30 Eastern time
- Federal Sessions at national and regional events
- Training by the National Centers and Regional TTA
- OHS Birth to Five Leadership Institute



# Thank You



## Questions?

