

# Highlights of Head Start Program Performance Standards

## **1306.35 Family child care program option.**

(a) Grantee and delegate agency implementation. Grantee and delegate agencies offering the family child care program option must:

- (1) Hours of operation.
- (2) Serving children with disabilities.
- (3) Program Space-indoor and outdoor.
- (4) Policy Council role.

(b) Facilities

- (1) Safety Plan
- (2) Injury prevention

(c) Emergency plans.

(d) Licensing requirements

## **1306.20 Program Staffing**

**1306.20(i)** Head Start, Early Head Start and delegate agencies must ensure that children in the Head Start family child care option receive comprehensive services as specified in **45 CFR Parts 1304 and 1308.**

### *Benefits to Providers*

## **1306.20 Program Staffing**

**(h)(2)** The grantee or delegate agency will assign responsibilities to the child development specialist and other agency staff to support and ensure the provision of quality Head Start services at each family child care home. These responsibilities must include both regular announced and unannounced visits to each home.

### **(h)(3)...visits**

- Verify compliance
- Facilitate ongoing communication
- Provide recommendations for technical assistance
- Support the family child care provider

# Highlights of Head Start Program Performance Standards

## *Monitoring Quality*

1306.20 (h) ... *programs with Family Child Care must provide support for providers through a Child Development Specialist or other Head Start/Early Head Start agency staff member with responsibilities related to the provision of comprehensive HS/EHS services.*

- Include both announced and unannounced visits at least once every two weeks.
- Staff member will verify compliance with contract requirements and/or policies depending on the relationship; recommend T/TA; support mentoring or other collegial relationships with other professionals

## *Ratios and Group Size*

*(g) Grantee and delegate agencies offering the Family Child Care Program Option must ensure that in each FCC home the group size does not exceed:*

- 1 Provider, 6 children under the age of 6 (no more than 2 under the age of 2)
- 1 Provider, 1 Assistant, maximum of 12 children (no more than 4 under the age of 2)
- 1 Provider with 4 infants and toddlers (no more than 2 of 4 under the age of 18 months)
- The Provider's own children under age 6 are included in these ratios.

## *Curricula and Ongoing Assessment Tools*

### **1306.20 Program Staffing**

1306.20(i) Head Start, Early Head Start and delegate agencies must ensure that children in the Head Start family child care option receive comprehensive services as specified in 45 CFR Parts 1304 and 1308.

1306.21(c)(1) Grantee and delegate agencies, in collaboration with the parents, must implement a curriculum

### *Provider Level of Experience, Education, and Credentials*

1304.52(h)(1) Provider Qualifications:

- Provider must have previous early child care experience.
- Within 6 months of beginning service, Provider must enroll in a CDA or ECE degree program.
- Within 2 years of beginning service, Provider must acquire a CDA credential or a degree.