#### **Office of Head Start**



#### **Administration for Children and Families**



#### **HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

### **Overall Structure of the HSPPS**



## The new HSPPS has five clearly defined parts:

- Program Governance
- Program Operations
- Administrative & Financial Requirements
- Federal Administrative Procedures
- Definitions



# **Program Operations**



- Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, & Attendance
- Program Structure
- Education & Child Development Program Services
- Health Program Services
- Family and Community Engagement Program Services
- Additional Services for Children with Disabilities
- Transition Services
- Services to Enrolled Pregnant Women
- Human Resources Management
- Program Management and Quality Improvement



### **ERSEA**



- Community Needs Assessment
- Focus on Serving Neediest Children including
  - Children who are Homeless
  - Children in Foster care
  - > Children with Disabilities
- Promoting individual attendance
- Addresses suspension and expulsion

## **Program Structure**



- Structural requirements for each standard program options (Center-based, Family Child Care and Home-based) including:
  - Duration,
  - Ratios/caseloads, and
  - Licensing or safety requirements
- Waiver requirements for locally designed program options

## **Spotlight on Increasing Duration**



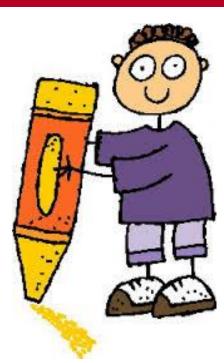


- Sets an Annual hour threshold of 1,020 hours per year for Head Start that increases over five years with option for HHS Secretary to reduce
  - 50% by August 1, 2019
  - 100% by August 1, 2021
- Codifies Early Head Start as a Continuous Program
  - 1,380 hours for center-based
  - 46 visits, 22 group socializations for home-based

# **Education and Child Development**



- Teaching Practices
- Learning Environments
- Curricula
- Screening and Assessments
- Parent engagement
- Home-based education requirements
- Tribal Language Preservation and Revitalization



# **Spotlight on Curricula**





- Based on scientifically valid research
- Standardized training procedures & materials
- Organized developmental scope & sequence
- Must support children's development across the domains and be content rich
- Must be developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Programs must support and oversee fidelity of implementation

## **Spotlight on Dual Language Learners**





- Effective Teaching Practices that promote bilingualism and bi-literacy
- Screening and Assessment for DLLs
- Coordinate Approach to Serving DLLs
- Maintains requirement that when the majority of the children in a class speak the same language---at least one class staff member must speak such language
- Support for families of children who are DLLs

#### Health



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

- Health, Oral Health, Nutrition services
- Mental health services
- Parent engagement in health
- Keeping children safe -aligned with child care systems



# Family and Community Engagement



- Family Engagement
- Activities to Promote Child Learning and Development
- Family Partnership Services
- Community Partnerships and Coordination with other Early Childhood and Education Programs



## Additional Services for Children with Disabilities



- Full participation in all program services and activities.
- Provide individual services and supports to the maximum extent possible to children awaiting determination of IDEA eligibility
- Parent engagement
- LEA collaboration



## **Human Resources Management**



- Comprehensive background checks and other personnel policies
- Staff qualifications and competencies
- A stronger system of staff professional development including coordinated coaching strategy
- Staff health and Wellness
- Volunteers

# Spotlight on Strengthening Professional Development





#### **Requirements:**

- Research-based approaches to professional development for education staff
- A research-based, coordinated coaching strategy that provides tiered coaching based on assessed need.
- Staff are assessed to identify strengths, areas of need, and level of coaching needs.
- Intensive coaching opportunities are aligned with the program's goals and curricula, include clearly articulated goals, and are supported by qualified coaching staff.

## **Program Management**



- Management System Implementation
- Establishing program goals
- Monitoring program performance
  - Ongoing compliance oversight and correction
  - Ongoing assessment of program goals
- Using data for continuous improvement

# Key Areas Informed by Research



- Education broadly and specifically:
  - Duration
  - Curriculum
  - Effective Teaching Practices
  - Dual Language Learners
- Professional Development and Coaching
- Individual Attendance
- Suspension and Expulsion

# Areas for Where More Research would have helped



## Everywhere but specifically:

- Thresholds for Duration
- Curriculum
- Coaching
- Family Engagement

## **Opportunities**



- Approaches to Duration Increase
  - Shorter hours for more days vs School year
- Curriculum Adaptations
- Approaches to Coaching
- Professional Development Adaptations