

ERSEA: Attendance

Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance (ERSEA)



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Head Start Program Performance Standards

45 CFR Chapter XIII
September 2016



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Head Start



45 CFR 1302 Subpart A – Attendance

§ 1302.16(a) Attendance

Promote regular attendance

- ✓ Ensure children are safe by contacting parents if not called in within 1 hour of start time
 - ✓ Provide benefits of regular attendance
 - ✓ Support families to promote regular attendance
 - ✓ Home visit/direct parent contact 2+ consecutive unexplained absences
- ✓ 60 days of program start: use individual child attendance to identify patterns of absence; develop strategies
 - ✓ Re-engage family to attend, consider slot vacant

§ 1302.16(b) Attendance

Monthly average daily attendance rate



below 85%

- ✓ Analyze causes of absenteeism
 - ✓ Identify systemic issues
- ✓ Use data to make changes as part of ongoing oversight and correction and inform of continuous improvement

§ 1302.16(c) Attendance

Attendance of homeless children:

- ✓ Attend up to 90 days or as long as state licensing allows without immunization of other records
- ✓ Give reasonable time to produce documents
- ✓ Work with families to help comply with state immunization licensing
- ✓ Homeless unable to attend because of lack of transportations = help them access community resources

Attendance

“Research shows that one-third of chronically absent (missing 10% or more of the school year) 4-year-olds continue to be chronically absent in kindergarten. Of those students, more than 30 percent are still chronically absent in second grade. This has a direct and negative impact on student reading levels.”

Attendance



Questions to consider

- Have you developed a system for identifying attendance concerns and possible responses?
- Have you educated staff and parents about importance of regular attendance?
- Have you developed a plan for partnering with parents to promote regular attendance?
- Have you identified potential barriers and support strategies for vulnerable populations?

Attendance

Questions to consider

- Have you developed a system for collecting and analyzing attendance data?
- Have you created tip sheets to educate parents on the importance of regular attendance and what to do when a child is absent?
- Does your community assessment help you identify trends, health concerns, or cultural traditions that may impact regular attendance?
- Have you developed strategies that respond to child, family, and community barriers to regular attendance?

Questions to consider

- Have you established systems for monitoring the diverse needs of your families and community?
- Have you developed an individualized improvement plan for children who are at risk for missing 10 percent of the program year?
- Have you developed an attendance communication plan that identifies opportunities to talk with parents and staff about the benefits of consistent attendance?
- Have you worked with partners to address community-wide issues that may be impacting regular attendance such as transportation, neighborhood safety, or health concerns?

§ 1302.17(a-b) Attendance

Suspension

- ✓ Prohibit/serve due to a c
- ✓ May only l nature
- ✓ Used only
- ✓ Engage w consultant w/parents communit
- ✓ Help the c participation ASAP

Expulsion

or unenroll child's

ment all taken to ems

child's safe in the program

safety threat, the transition appropriate

placement





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