

ERSEA: Definitions

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



Trainer: Tammy T. Jelinek, MBA, Partner

WIPFLi^{LLP}
CPAs and Consultants

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Head Start Program Performance Standards

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



45 CFR 1305 – Definitions

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Child records means records that:

- (1) Are directly related to the child;
- (2) Are maintained by the program, or by a party acting for the program; and

- (3) Include information recorded in any way, such as print, electronic, or digital means, including media, video, image, or audio format.

Enrollment

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Attendance

Enrolled (or any variation of)

means a child has been accepted and attended at least one class for center-based or family child care option or at least one home visit for the home-based option.

Enrollment

Enrollment year means the period of time, not to exceed twelve months, during which a Head Start program provides center or home-based services to a group of children and their families.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Eligibility

Family means all persons living in the same household who are supported by the child's parent(s)' or guardian(s)' income;

and are related to the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) by blood, marriage, or adoption;
or are the child's authorized caregiver or legally responsible party.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Foster care means 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians and for whom the state agency has placement and care responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, placements in foster family homes, foster homes of relatives, group homes, emergency shelters, residential facilities, child-care institutions, and pre-adoptive homes.

A child is in foster care in accordance with this definition regardless of whether the foster care facility is licensed and payments are made by the state or local agency for the care of the child, whether adoption subsidy payments are being made prior to the finalization of an adoption, or whether there is federal matching of any payments that are made.

Eligibility

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Enrollment

Funded enrollment means the number of participants which the Head Start grantee is to serve, as indicated on the grant award.

Eligibility

Homeless children means the same as homeless children and youths in Section 725(2)63 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act at 42 U.S.C. 11434a (2).

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Eligibility

Income means gross cash income and includes earned income, military income (including pay and allowances, except those described in Section 645(a)(3)(B)64 of the Act), veteran's benefits, Social Security benefits, unemployment compensation,

and public assistance benefits. Additional examples of gross cash income are listed in the definition of "income" which appears in U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60-185 (available at <https://www2.census.gov/prod2/popscan/p60-185.pdf>).

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Eligibility

Migrant family means, for purposes of Head Start eligibility, a family with children under the age of compulsory school attendance who changed their residence by moving from one

geographic location to another, either intrastate or interstate, within the preceding two years for the purpose of engaging in agricultural work and whose family income comes primarily from this activity.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Eligibility

Parent means a Head Start child's mother or father, other family member who is a primary caregiver, foster parent or authorized caregiver, guardian

or the person with whom the child has been placed for purposes of adoption pending a final adoption decree.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Selection

Participant means a pregnant woman or child who is enrolled in and receives services from a HS, an EHS, a Migrant or Seasonal HS, or an American Indian and Alaska Native HS program.

Recruitment

Recruitment area means that geographic locality within which a HS program seeks to enroll HS children and families. The recruitment area can be the same as the service area or it can be a smaller area or areas within the service area.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Eligibility

Relevant time period
means:

(1) The 12 months preceding the month in which the application is submitted; or

(2) During the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the application is submitted, whichever more accurately reflects the needs of the family at the time of application.

§ 1305.2 Definitions

Selection

Service area means the geographic area identified in an approved grant application within which a grantee may provide Head Start services.

Selection

Verify or any variance of the word means to check or determine the correctness or truth by investigation or by reference.



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Kate D. Atkins, MS
katkins@wipfli.com
608.270.2944

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