

	DHS Head Start Program Policy		
ERSEA 10			
SUBJECT	Suspension and Expulsion Due to Behavior		
REFERENCE	Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance		
EFFECTIVE	02/01/2017		
Policy Council Approval: 1/24/17	Policy Council Revision: 11/19/19	Governing Body Approval: 2/20/17	Governing Body Revision: 12/13/19
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Policy:

The Head Start Program [limits the use of suspension due to a child’s behavior. Suspensions may only be temporary and used as a last resort in extraordinary circumstances where there is a serious safety threat. The Education Service Providers must engage with the City of San Antonio Mental Health Coordinator and ensure all other resources, including behavior support, psychologists, or other specialists, have been engaged prior to implementing a temporary suspension. If a temporary suspension is deemed necessary, the Education Service Providers must help the child return to full participation in all program activities as quickly as possible while ensuring child safety, engaging with the parents, Mental Health Coordinator, and other appropriate staff to facilitate continued participation the program.](#)

~~Education Service Providers cannot expel or unenroll a child due to behavior. If a child exhibits persistent and serious behavioral concerns, Education Service Providers must explore all possible steps and document all steps taken to address such ~~problems,~~ ~~and problems~~ and facilitate the child’s safe participation in the program. If, after the Education Service Provider has explored all possible steps, in consultation with the parents, the child’s teacher, Special Education Coordinator, and the City of San Antonio Mental Health Coordinator, and City of San Antonio Head Start Program Administrator, determines that the child’s continued enrollment presents a serious safety threat to the child or other enrolled children, and determines the program is not the most appropriate placement for the child, the Education Service Provider must facilitate the transition of the child to a more appropriate placement.~~

[Information related to the suspension or expulsion of a child must be documented in ChildPlus.](#)

~~prohibits Educational Service Providers from suspending, expelling, or un-enrolling a child from a Head Start Program due to a child's behavior. Exceptions to this policy may be considered on a case by case basis. Consultation with the Grant Recipient's Mental Health Coordinator and Education Service Provider must be conducted to determine if the child's enrollment presents a safety threat to the child or other enrolled children. These exceptions must be submitted to the Head Start Administrator for approval prior to any action.~~

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Performance Standard:

1302.17 (a) (b)