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

**Performance Standard:** 1302.17 (a) (b)