
	DHS Early Head Start Program Policy		
EDUCATION 10			
SUBJECT	Curriculum and Lesson Plans		
REFERENCE	Education and Early Childhood Development		
EFFECTIVE	8/1/2016		
Policy Council Approval: 7/26/16	Policy Council Revision: pending	Governing Body Approval: 9/19/16	Governing Body Revision: pending
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Policy:

The Head Start definition of curriculum is a planned management of time, materials, and activities to guide children’s individual pattern of learning and development. The curriculum helps children gain skills and confidence and should integrate Early Head Start (EHS) components which form a foundation for school readiness. Service Providers will involve parents in the implementation of the program’s curriculum and approaches to child development and education.

The curriculum must be research-based and align with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF). The curriculum will address the five Central Domains from the HSELOF in an integrated approach, using intentional and individualized instruction to support children’s learning and development.

Curriculum activities will be documented on lesson plans for center-based and home-based services. Service Providers will develop lesson plan guidance and procedures for classroom teachers utilizing Early Head Start (EHS) Program’s designated curriculum.

Lesson plans for center-based services should include teacher directed and child initiated, large group, small group, and individual lessons and activities that support social emotional, cognitive, physical development, and language skills. Lesson plans should include alignment with the five Central Domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and Little Texans Big Futures and documentation of individualized learning experiences, activities, and accommodations for all children, including children with an IFSP/IEP. Current lesson plans must be posted for parents and other staff to review.

Lesson plans for home-based services should include structured child-focused lessons and activities that promote a parents’ ability to support the child’s cognitive, social emotional, language, literacy, and physical development. Lesson plans should include alignment with the five Central Domains of the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and Little Texans Big Futures and documentation of individualized learning experiences, activities, and accommodations for all children, including

children with an IFSP/IEP. Current lesson plans must be available for parents and other staff to review.

Performance Standard(s):

1302.31: 1302.32

Head Start Act:

Sec.641A. (a) (1)(B)