

### **1302.30 Education and Child Development Program Services**

All programs must provide high-quality early education and child development services, including for children with disabilities, that promote children’s cognitive, social, and emotional growth for later success in school. A center-based or family child care program must embed responsive and effective teacher-child interactions. A home-based program must promote secure parent-child relationships and help parents provide high-quality early learning experiences. All programs must implement a research-based curriculum, and screening and assessment procedures that support individualization and growth in the areas of development described in the *Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five* and support family engagement in children’s learning and development. A program must deliver developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate learning experiences in language, literacy, mathematics, social and emotional functioning, approaches to learning, science, physical skills, and creative arts. To deliver such high-quality early education and child development services, a center-based or family child care program must implement, at a minimum, the elements contained in §§1302.31 through 1302.34, and a home-based program must implement, at a minimum, the elements in §§1302.33 and 1302.35.

## **PRESCHOOL FAMILY FOCUS Procedure**

Family Focus is an important part of our curriculum and is part of every classroom. This is special time for children and their families. The week is an opportunity for family members to be involved in the curriculum planning, volunteer in the classroom and highlight their family culture, language, and ethnicity.

Steps to follow when planning Family Focus.

1. Plan a week long Family Focus for each child which is consistent with our curriculum and holiday policy.
2. Plan activities and curriculum with the family at least one week before the Family Focus.
3. If the family is hesitant delay the week and help facilitate a future Family Focus date. If family is unable to participate staff will facilitate the Family Focus based on what they know about the child with his or her input.
4. Provide resources, such as poster boards or questionnaires to families.
5. Encourage creativity during Family Focus.

The Family Focus helps meet several standards:

- *Standard 1302.31 (1)(2)* Provide an environment of acceptance that supports and respects gender, culture, language, ethnicity and family composition.

- *Standard 1302.34 (4)* Parent involvement in the curriculum.
- *Standard 1302.31* Supporting and respecting the home language, culture, and family composition of each child in ways that support the child's health and wellbeing.
- *Standard 1302.31 (1)(i)* Ensures that the program environment helps children develop emotional security and facility in social relationships:
- *Standard 1304231 (i) (ii)* Enhances each child's understanding of self as an individual and as a member or a group:
- *Standard 1302.31(i)(ii)* Provides each child with opportunities for success to help develop feelings of competence, self-esteem and positive attitudes toward learning

Family Focus helps build Developmental Assets that children need to succeed.

#### External Assets:

- *Support* Family is supportive and there is positive family communication
- *Empowerment* Parents are involved in the Head Start/ECEAP curriculum, this shows value of the child and how important the family is in the life of the child.

#### Internal Assets:

- *Commitment to Learning* Parents reinforce the child's preschool, the family models involvement in preschool, the enjoyment of preschool is shared with the involvement.
- *Social Competencies* Child is positively exposed to information about and people of different cultural backgrounds.
- *Positive Identity* Parents feel they have control over things. Parents report that their lives have purpose, parents are optimistic.