

Transition Services
Subpart G-1302.70 – 1302.72

Head Start Performance Standard

§1302.70 Transitions from Early Head Start

- (a) Implementing transition strategies and practices. An Early Head Start program must implement strategies and practices to support successful transitions for children and their families transitioning out of Early Head Start.
- (b) Timing for transitions. To ensure the most appropriate placement and service following participation in Early Head Start, such programs must, at least six months prior to each child's third birthday, implement transition planning for each child and family that:
 - (1) Takes into account the child's developmental level and health and disability status, progress made by the child and family while in Early Head Start, current and changing family circumstances and, the availability of Head Start, other public pre-kindergarten, and other early education and child development services in the community that will meet the needs of the child and family; and,
 - (2) Transitions the child into Head Start or another program as soon as possible after the child's third birthday, but permits the child to remain in Early Head Start for a limited number of additional months following the child's third birthday if necessary for an appropriate transition.
- (c) Family collaborations. A program must collaborate with

parents of Early Head Start children to implement strategies and activities that support successful transitions from Early Head Start and, at a minimum, provide information about the child's progress during the program year and provide strategies for parents to continue their involvement in and advocacy for the education and development of their child.

(d) Early Head Start and Head Start collaboration. Early Head Start and Head Start programs must work together to maximize enrollment transitions from Early Head Start to Head Start, consistent with the eligibility provisions in subpart A, and promote successful transitions through collaboration and communication.

(e) Transition services for children with an IFSP. A program must provide additional transition services for children with an IFSP, at a minimum, as described in subpart F of this part.

Plan of Action

We currently do not have an Early Head Start program in place in the Terrell Independent School District.

Monitoring Plan

N/A

Persons Responsible

N/A

Timeline

N/A

§1302.71 Transitions from Head Start to kindergarten.

(a) Implementing transition strategies and practices. A program that serves children who will enter kindergarten in the following year must implement transition strategies to support a successful transition to kindergarten.

(b) Family collaborations for transitions.

(1) A program must collaborate with parents of enrolled children to implement strategies and activities that will help parents advocate for and promote successful transitions to kindergarten for their children, including their continued involvement in the education and development of their child.

(2) At a minimum, such strategies and activities must:

- (i) Help parents understand their child's progress during Head Start;
- (ii) Help parents understand practices they use to effectively provide academic and social support for their children during their transition to kindergarten and foster their continued involvement in the education of their child;
- (iii) Prepare parents to exercise their rights and responsibilities concerning the education of their children in the elementary school setting, including services and supports available to children with disabilities and various options for their child to participate in language instruction educational programs; and,
- (iv) Assist parents in the ongoing

communication with teachers and other school personnel so that parents can participate in decisions related to their children's education.

(c) Community collaborations for transitions.

(1) A program must collaborate with local education agencies to support family engagement under section 642(b)(13)²³ of the Act and state departments of education, as appropriate, and kindergarten teachers to implement strategies and activities that promote successful transitions to kindergarten for children, their families, and the elementary school.

(2) At a minimum, such strategies and activities must include:

- (i) Coordination with schools or other appropriate agencies to ensure children's relevant records are transferred to the school or next placement in which a child will enroll, consistent with privacy requirements in subpart C of part 1303 of this chapter;
- (ii) Communication between appropriate staff and their counterparts in the schools to facilitate continuity of learning and development, consistent with privacy requirements in subpart C of part 1303 of this chapter; and,
- (iii) Participation, as possible, for joint training and professional development activities for Head Start and kindergarten teachers and staff.

(3) A program that does not operate during the summer

must collaborate with school districts to determine the availability of summer school programming for children who will be entering kindergarten and work with parents and school districts to enroll children in such programs, as appropriate.

(d)Learning environment activities. A program must implement strategies and activities in the learning environment that promote successful transitions to kindergarten for enrolled children, and at a minimum, include approaches that familiarize children with the transition to kindergarten and foster confidence about such transition.

(e)Transition services for children with an IEP. A program must provide additional transition services for children with an IEP, at a minimum, as described in subpart F of this part.

Plan of Action

Parents will receive periodical information throughout the Head Start school year to ease the transition from Head Start to kindergarten. Goals for the child with related activities and strategies are determined with the parent during home visits and conferences. All children that are in the Head Start program will transition to one of the four campuses that house the kindergarten program that will be determined by the student's residence. Files will be transferred to either Gilbert Willie Sr. Elementary, J. W. Long Elementary, Bruce Wood Elementary, or the Global Leadership Academy campus by the attendance registrar. Staff from each campus has joint training at the beginning of each school year. Parents will receive a specific overview of their child's preparation for kindergarten.

Monitoring Plan

Timeline, transition packets, kindergarten night fliers, staff training, summer school letters

Persons Responsible

Head Start Director, Education Manager, Health & Family Services Manager, and Attendance Register

Timeline

August-June

§1302.72 Transitions between programs.

- (a) For families and children who move out of the community in which they are currently served, including homeless families and foster children, a program must undertake efforts to support effective transitions to other Early Head Start or Head Start programs. If Early Head Start or Head Start is not available, the program should assist the family in identifying another early childhood program that meets their needs.
- (b) A program that serves children whose families have decided to transition them to other early education programs, including public pre-kindergarten, in the year prior to kindergarten entry must undertake strategies and activities described in §1302.71 (b) and (c)(1) and (2), as practicable and appropriate.
- (c) A migrant or seasonal Head Start program must undertake efforts to support effective transitions to other migrant or seasonal Head Start or, if appropriate, Early Head Start or Head Start programs for families and children moving out of the community in which they are currently served.

Plan of Action

The Terrell ISD Head Start Program staff is committed to continued services to all children enrolled in the program. Children's files will be sent to the next campus or transferred to the new school district. Family Services case managers will assist families to transfer to another Head Start or school entity. Children who transition to Terrell Head Start Program from another Head Start program will receive an additional 100 points from the ranking sheet to support their immediate enrollment.

Monitoring Plan

Transfer forms, case manager documentation

Persons Responsible

Family Service case managers, attendance registrar

Timeline

August-June