

## Community Assessment: The Foundation for Program Planning in Head Start Interactive Overview Introduction

### Text Version

#### Navigation Tips

- This highlighted box tells you which section of the Community Assessment you are in.
- The Contents menu lets you monitor your progress and review section topics.
- Select the Home button to return to the opening page.
- Select PREV to review previous pages.
- Select NEXT or SUBMIT to advance.

#### Introduction

- To be responsive, programs must understand the needs and characteristics of the children, families, and communities they serve.
- The community assessment helps you gain that knowledge.
- Do you know the foundational requirements and benefits of a community assessment?

### 1 Review Guiding Regulations

#### 1 Which federal legislation or regulations inform the community assessment?

*Select all that apply.*

*(Multiple Response)*

Correct	Choice
	A. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance)
X	B. Head Start Act
X	C. Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS)

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! The correct answers are **B and C**. The Head Start Act sets forth requirements related to community-wide strategic planning. The HSPPS establish expectations for the community assessment process. The Uniform Guidance includes regulations that govern Head Start grants management.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! The correct answers are **B and C**. The Head Start Act sets forth requirements related to community-wide strategic planning. The HSPPS establish expectations for the community assessment process. The Uniform Guidance includes regulations that govern Head Start grants management.



## 2 Identify Key Needs

### 2 What information should a community assessment include?

Select all that apply.

(Multiple Response)

Correct	Choice
X	Demographic information about eligible children and expectant mothers
X	Information on the education, health, nutrition, and social service needs of eligible families
X	Work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children
X	Information about other local child development services and child care centers

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! Community assessments must include **all of these elements**. They should also describe community resources and community strengths. It's the kind of information you need to meet community needs.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! Community assessments must include **all of these elements**. They should also describe community resources and community strengths. It's the kind of information you need to meet community needs.

## 3 Conduct Regular Research

### 3 How often is a community assessment required?

Select the best possible answer.

(Multiple Choice)

Correct	Choice
	A. It is an ongoing activity without beginning or end
	B. Annually
X	C. Once every five years
	D. Only when major demographic shifts occur

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! The correct answer is **C**. While a program is required to review and update it annually, it is only required to conduct a community assessment once over the five-year grant period.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! The correct answer is **C**. While a program is required to review and update it annually, it is only required to conduct a community assessment once over the five-year grant period.



## 4 Inform Decision-Making

### 4 Community assessments help programs make decisions about which of the following?

Select all that apply.

(Multiple Response)

Correct	Choice
X	Program options
X	Program calendars
X	Types of services and collaborative partnerships
X	Locations of centers

#### Feedback when correct:

The correct answer is **all of these and then some**. Data from the community assessment helps program leaders make decisions about program options, program calendars, types of services and collaborative partnerships, and the location of centers. Plus, it helps identify recruitment areas and establish recruitment and selection priorities.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

The correct answer is **all of these and then some**. Data from the community assessment helps program leaders make decisions about program options, program calendars, types of services and collaborative partnerships, and the location of centers. Plus, it helps identify recruitment areas and establish recruitment and selection priorities.

## 5 Mobilize Resources

### 5 Community assessment data informs policies, programs, and practices and allows resources to be allocated in ways that ensure equity and optimal child outcomes.

(True/False)

Correct	Choice
X	True
	False

#### Feedback when correct:

It's true!

#### Feedback when incorrect:

It's true!



## 6 Maximize Partnerships

### 6 How does a community assessment maximize community partnerships?

Select all that apply.

(Multiple Response)

Correct	Choice
X	Establish community-wide relationships
X	Educate community stakeholders about local needs
X	Identify shared interests and potential partnerships
X	Expand or create new services

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! The answer is **all of them**. The community assessment can be instrumental in establishing collaborative partnerships.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! The answer is **all of them**. The community assessment can be instrumental in establishing collaborative partnerships.

## 7 Increase Financial Resources

### 7 A community assessment can be used to increase financial resources.

(True/False)

Correct	Choice
X	True
	False

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! The answer is **True**. A community assessment can be used to support private, state, or federal funding applications and requests to local businesses for funds, supplies, or other in-kind contributions.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! The answer is **True**. A community assessment can be used to support private, state, or federal funding applications and requests to local businesses for funds, supplies, or other in-kind contributions.



## 8 Build on the Research

### 8 Community assessments can help programs do which of the following?

Select all that apply.

(Multiple Response)

Correct	Choice
X	Identify community strengths
X	Mobilize necessary resources
X	Expose gaps in services
X	Inform decision-making

#### Feedback when correct:

Correct! Community assessments are really powerful tools in program planning, and they can help do **all of these**.

#### Feedback when incorrect:

Oops, not quite! Community assessments are really powerful tools in program planning, and they can help do **all of these**.

#### Next Steps

Results for
1 Review Guiding Regulations
2 Identify Key Needs
3 Conduct Regular Research
4 Inform Decision-Making
5 Mobilize Resources
6 Maximize Partnerships
7 Increase Financial Resources
8 Build on the Research

Result slide properties

Passing Score

75%

#### Success (Slide Layer)

Great job! It looks like you recognize the benefits of a community assessment. Learn more about the benefits in the "Introduction" of Community Assessment: The Foundation of Program Planning in Head Start. See "Step 1: Plan and Organize" to find out how to assemble your all-important community assessment team.

#### Failure (Slide Layer)

Maybe a little more review is in order. Learn more about the benefits of a community assessment in the "Introduction" of Community Assessment: The Foundation of Program Planning in Head Start. Then, see "Step 1: Plan and Organize" to find out how to assemble your all-important community assessment team.

