



## HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING

### PART 1302 PROGRAM OPERATIONS

#### ■ Subpart C – Education and Child Development Program Services

- **1302.30 (a) Purpose.** 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*.
- **1302.35 (a) Purpose.** A program must implement a research-based curriculum that delivers developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate home visits and group socialization activities that support children's cognitive, social, and emotional growth for later success in school.
- **1302.35 (b)(2) Education in home-based programs.** A home-based program must ensure all home visits are: planned using information from ongoing assessments that individualize learning experiences.
- **1302.35 (c)(1) Home visit experiences.** A program that operates the home-based option must ensure all home visits focus on promoting high-quality early learning experiences in the home and growth towards the goals described in the *Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five* and must use such goals and the curriculum to plan home visit activities that implement age and developmentally appropriate, structured child-focused learning experiences.
- **1302.35 (d)(1)(iii) Home-based curriculum.** A program that operates the home-based option must ensure that home-visiting and group socializations implement a developmentally appropriate research-based curriculum that has an organized developmental scope and sequence that include plans and materials for learning experiences based on developmental progressions and how children learn.
- **1302.35 (e)(2)(i) Group socialization.** Group socializations must be structured to: Provide age-appropriate activities for participating children that are intentionally aligned to school readiness goals, the *Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five*, and the home-based curriculum.

### MAKING THE CONNECTION

1. The Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (ELOF) helps home visitors and families understand child development, including what children should know and be able to do at different age levels. Home visitors can use the ELOF with families as a tool to help them understand what their children should know and be able to do in different domains at different age levels.
2. Implementing a curriculum responsively requires home visitors to first learn, along with families, about each child's development. It also requires home visitors to have a deep understanding of their program's curriculum. With all of this information, home visitors and families work together to use curriculum materials in ways that allow families to provide learning experiences and interactions that promote their child's school readiness.
3. Guidance related to implementing a curriculum responsive to children's development and learning is already present in much of the daily routines and activities. As part of ongoing child assessment, home visitors regularly observe and support families to observe in order to learn about children's development and learning. They implement the program curriculum with fidelity, considering what the curriculum offers and ways to individualize it for children and families.

