



# The Academy at NHSA

Head Start's home for professional learning



# POLL QUESTION

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How long have you been in your position?

- A. 0-6 months
- B. 6-12 months
- C. 12-18 months
- D. 18 months+



# NHSA's Mission

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**To coalesce, inspire, and support the Head Start field as a leader in early childhood development and education.**

**We are compelled to fulfill this mission by the promise of all possible outcomes:**

- One powerful, united Head Start voice
- A collegial, collaborative Head Start field
- Nonpartisan support of an increased federal commitment to Head Start
- Healthier, empowered children and families, and stronger, more vibrant communities

# Head Start Performance Standard

- §1302.91 (e) (7) Family services staff who work directly with families on the family partnership process At a minimum, a credential or certification in social work, human services, family services, counseling, or a related field within eighteen months of hire.
- Only applicable to staff hired after November 7, 2016. Such staff must meet educational requirements within eighteen months of hire.

\*You do not have to be a new to Head Start to take this credential.

# What is family services in Head Start?

- We assist and support parents in their role as caregivers.
- Such services can take many different forms depending on the strengths and needs of the family, but the overarching goal is to help parents enhance skills and resolve problems to promote optimal child development.
  - Family Goals \* Needs Assessments \* ERSEA
- \* Community Resources and Support \* Program Governance

# Certification: FIRST STEPS

## How do I prepare?



1. Get a copy of your agency's policies and procedures

# Certification: FIRST STEPS



2. Bookmark the Head Start Performance Standards

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii>

# Certification: FIRST STEPS



## 3. Get on a schedule

Four modules in four months

12 competencies, dozens of activities



# Certification: FIRST STEPS



## 4. Work as a team

Collaborate to find policies and procedures

Talk about how they are implemented

Call on your administration, ERSEA staff, clinicians - use your village

**SUBMIT YOUR OWN WORK**

# Certification: FIRST STEPS



5. Be prepared to write “narratives”

Your voice

Your story

Your own words

**SUBMIT YOUR OWN WORK**

# Certification: FIRST STEPS



## 6. Focus on your program

HOW does YOUR program apply the Head Start Performance Standards?

# Getting Started

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## Log In

Get familiar with Canvas, our learning platform.

## Module 1

Complete the introduction and module 1 activities.

## Review

Your supervisor **MUST REVIEW AND SIGN OFF** on your first module before you can continue on.

# Sample Question...

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Choose one of the Family Partnership Head Start Performance Standards.

Describe how you accomplish this in your work.

Please cite the Performance Standard

# Support with Credential

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For content questions:

- **Email reviewer** via Canvas Inbox
- **Attend Office Hours** - 1st & 3rd Mondays

For Academy questions:

- **Help Desk** [academy@nhsa.org](mailto:academy@nhsa.org)

