§ 1306.21 Staff qualification requirements.

Head Start programs must comply with section 648A of the Head Start Act and any subsequent amendments regarding the qualifications of classroom teachers.

[61 FR 57226, Nov. 5, 1996]

§ 1306.22 Volunteers.

(a) Head Start programs must use volunteers to the fullest extent possible. Head Start grantees must develop and implement a system to actively recruit, train and utilize volunteers in the program.

(b) Special efforts must be made to have volunteer participation, especially parents, in the classroom and during group socialization activities.

§ 1306.23 Training.

(a) Head Start grantees must provide pre-service training and in-service training opportunities to program staff and volunteers to assist them in acquiring or increasing the knowledge and skills they need to fulfill their job responsibilities. This training must be directed toward improving the ability of staff and volunteers to deliver services required by Head Start regulations and policies.

(b) Head Start grantees must provide staff with information and training about the underlying philosophy and goals of Head Start and the program options being implemented.

Subpart C—Head Start Program Options

§ 1306.30 Provisions of comprehensive child development services.

(a) All Head Start grantees must provide comprehensive child development services, as defined in the Head Start Performance Standards.

(b) All Head Start grantees must provide classroom or group socialization activities for the child as well as home visits to the parents. The major purpose of the classroom or socialization activities is to help meet the child’s developmental needs and to foster the child’s social competence. The major purpose of the home visits is to enhance the parental role in the growth and development of the child.

(c) The facilities used by Early Head Start and Head Start grantee and delegate agencies for regularly scheduled center-based and combination program option classroom activities or home-based group socialization activities must comply with State and local requirements concerning licensing. In cases where these licensing standards are less comprehensive or less stringent than the Head Start regulations, or where no State or local licensing standards are applicable, grantee and delegate agencies are required to assure that their facilities are in compliance with the Head Start Program Performance Standards related to health
and safety as found in 45 CFR 1304.53(a).

(d) All grantees must identify, secure and use community resources in the provision of services to Head Start children and their families prior to using Head Start funds for these services.


§ 1306.31 Choosing a Head Start program option.

(a) Grantees may choose to implement one or more than one of four program options: a center-based option, a home-based program option, a combination program option, or a family child care option.

(b) The program option chosen must meet the needs of the children and families as indicated by the community needs assessment conducted by the grantee.

(c) When assigning children to a particular program option, Head Start grantees that operate more than one program option must consider such factors as the child’s age, developmental level, disabilities, health or learning problems, previous preschool experiences and family situation. Grantees must also consider parents’ concerns and wishes prior to making final assignments.

[57 FR 58092, Dec. 8, 1992, as amended at 73 FR 1296, Jan. 8, 2008]

§ 1306.32 Center-based program option.

(a) Class size. (1) Head Start classes must be staffed by a teacher and an aide or two teachers and, whenever possible, a volunteer.

(2) Grantees must determine their class size based on the predominant age of the children who will participate in the class and whether or not a center-based double session variation is being implemented.

(3) For classes serving predominantly four or five-year-old children, the average class size of that group of classes must be between 17 and 20 children, with no more than 20 children enrolled in any one class.

(4) When double session classes serve predominantly four or five-year-old-