HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
The new HSPPS has five clearly defined parts:

- Program Governance
- Program Operations
- Administrative & Financial Requirements
- Federal Administrative Procedures
- Definitions
Program Operations

- Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, & Attendance
- Program Structure
- Education & Child Development Program Services
- Health Program Services
- Family and Community Engagement Program Services
- Additional Services for Children with Disabilities
- Transition Services
- Services to Enrolled Pregnant Women
- Human Resources Management
- Program Management and Quality Improvement
• Community Needs Assessment
• Focus on Serving Neediest Children including
  ➢ Children who are Homeless
  ➢ Children in Foster care
  ➢ Children with Disabilities
• Promoting individual attendance
• Addresses suspension and expulsion
Program Structure

• Structural requirements for each standard program options (Center-based, Family Child Care and Home-based) including:
  – Duration,
  – Ratios/caseloads, and
  – Licensing or safety requirements

• Waiver requirements for locally designed program options
Spotlight on Increasing Duration

• Sets an Annual hour threshold of 1,020 hours per year for Head Start that increases over five years with option for HHS Secretary to reduce
  – 50% by August 1, 2019
  – 100% by August 1, 2021

• Codifies Early Head Start as a Continuous Program
  – 1,380 hours for center-based
  – 46 visits, 22 group socializations for home-based
Education and Child Development

Includes requirements related to:

• Teaching Practices
• Learning Environments
• Curricula
• Screening and Assessments
• Parent engagement
• Home-based education requirements
• Tribal Language Preservation and Revitalization
Spotlight on Curricula

• Based on scientifically valid research
• Standardized training procedures & materials
• Organized developmental scope & sequence
• Must support children’s development across the domains and be content rich
• Must be developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate
• Programs must support and oversee fidelity of implementation
Spotlight on Dual Language Learners

- Effective Teaching Practices that promote bilingualism and bi-literacy
- Screening and Assessment for DLLs
- Coordinate Approach to Serving DLLs
- Maintains requirement that when the majority of the children in a class speak the same language---at least one class staff member must speak such language
- Support for families of children who are DLLs
Health

Retains core services and streamlines requirements so they are easier to implement and includes requirements related to:

- Health, Oral Health, Nutrition services
- Mental health services
- Parent engagement in health
- Keeping children safe -- aligned with child care systems
Family and Community Engagement

Includes requirements related to:

• Family Engagement
• Activities to Promote Child Learning and Development
• Family Partnership Services
• Community Partnerships and Coordination with other Early Childhood and Education Programs
Includes requirements related to:

• Full participation in all program services and activities.
• Provide individual services and supports to the maximum extent possible to children awaiting determination of IDEA eligibility
• Parent engagement
• LEA collaboration
Includes requirements related to:

- Comprehensive background checks and other personnel policies
- Staff qualifications and competencies
- A stronger system of staff professional development including coordinated coaching strategy
- Staff health and Wellness
- Volunteers
Spotlight on Strengthening Professional Development

Requirements:

• Research-based approaches to professional development for education staff

• A research-based, coordinated coaching strategy that provides tiered coaching based on assessed need.

• Staff are assessed to identify strengths, areas of need, and level of coaching needs.

• Intensive coaching opportunities are aligned with the program’s goals and curricula, include clearly articulated goals, and are supported by qualified coaching staff.
Program Management

• Management System Implementation
• Establishing program goals
• Monitoring program performance
  – Ongoing compliance oversight and correction
  – Ongoing assessment of program goals
• Using data for continuous improvement
Key Areas Informed by Research

- Education broadly and specifically:
  - Duration
  - Curriculum
  - Effective Teaching Practices
  - Dual Language Learners
- Professional Development and Coaching
- Individual Attendance
- Suspension and Expulsion
Areas for Where More Research would have helped

Everywhere but specifically:

- Thresholds for Duration
- Curriculum
- Coaching
- Family Engagement
Opportunities

• Approaches to Duration Increase
  – Shorter hours for more days vs School year
• Curriculum Adaptations
• Approaches to Coaching
• Professional Development Adaptations