

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.
Head Start/Early Head Start

Part: 1302 Program Operations

Subpart: C-Education and Child Development Program Services

Section: 1302.33 Child Screening and Assessments

Subject: Assessment for Individualization

Policy:

Head Start/Early Head Start teaching staff will use Teaching Strategies GOLD to conduct standardized and structured assessments. Staff will use direct observation, parent input, and the assessment tool to plan for individualization for each child. The gathered information will be used to evaluate the child's developmental level and progress in outcomes that align with the goals described in the Head Start Learning Child Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five.

Procedures:

1. The teaching staff will review the Battelle Developmental Inventory Screening (BDI), parent input, Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment, Health Assessment, observation notes, and Ages and Stages –SE (ASQ-SE) to determine the child's strengths and needs.
2. The teaching staff will use the information gathered from initial home visits, ASQ, parent reports, family conferences, My Teaching Strategies, observation of children, and portfolio contents to inform and adjust strategies to support individualized learning and to improve teaching practices in the classroom and to improve home visit strategies in home based.
3. Information gathered about the individual children will be used to create a learning environment appropriate for each child, and to plan daily activities that build on each child's interests, strengths, and needs to promote individual growth.
4. The teaching staff will modify classroom instructions based on the individual needs of each child. Modification may include providing environmental support, modifying materials, modifying activity, providing peer support, and /or providing adult support.
5. The teaching staff will use the child's IEP/IFSP to individualize and modify instructions to meet the needs of children with identified special needs.
6. Staff will document individualization for children with special needs and learning objectives progress on the Child Individual Plan.
7. The teacher will embed Individualized instructions for the children throughout the day during child-initiated, planned, and routine activities. Staff use observation and gathered information from families in the child's home language to evaluate the child's development and progress.

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.
Head Start/Early Head Start

8. The teaching staff will use Teaching Strategies GOLD Digital format to Individualize each child and submit it along with the lesson plan.
9. The teaching staff will work with the children on the goals and objectives for two weeks or follow the child's interests or needs.
10. Parents are informed of their child's progress on goals and objectives at least three times a year. For children with an IFSP/IEP, parents are given progress reports according to the LEA or other agency-scheduled reporting period. Parents will have the opportunity to meet regularly to plan and discuss their child's education.
11. Head Start/Early Head Start staff will not use any child screening and assessment to exclude them from enrollment or participation in the program.