

**Early Head Start Grantee – Delaware County, Oklahoma  
HHS-2014-ACF-OHS-CH-R06-0624**

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The following questions have been received as of August 6, 2013. The answers have been provided by the Office of Head Start.

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***Question:*** Can a community partnership include two-source funding for children ages 3-5? For example, will OHS allow for Head Start to fund the first year of preschool, and a state-funded program to fund the second year of preschool, prior to kindergarten entry? In this example, OHS will only be directly funding preschool for 3-year-olds, and the state for 4-year-olds, but the partnership would provide two full years of preschool. In other words, is it possible for a grantee to provide services to only 3-year-olds if they can assure that each child has access to free care when they turn 4?

***Response:*** ACF does not provide direct guidance or instruction in the development of an applicant's project design or in writing their applications. Applicants should use their best judgment in determining whether they are able to meet the requirements contained in the FOA, whether they are able to develop an application they believe to be responsive to the FOA and in designing and writing their applications. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by objective review panels using the criteria described in Section V.1 of the FOA. The review panels will use the FOA as their principal guidance available to them in the same way that it is the principal guidance for applicants.

***Question:*** If #1 is allowed, what is the responsibility of the Head Start grantee for the outcomes of the children funded by a different source? Will these children be considered as having left the Head Start program when funded by a different source, or would the grantee have responsibility to ensure that children receive health, social-emotional, etc support? Would the grantee be held accountable for the developmental outcomes of these children?

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**Question:** If #1 is allowed, what is the allowable use of Head Start funds for providing health, dental, social, etc. services to children in the state-funded program who were once enrolled in Head Start?

**Response:** ACF does not provide direct guidance or instruction in the development of an applicant's project design or in writing their applications. Applicants should use their best judgment in determining whether they are able to meet the requirements contained in the FOA, whether they are able to develop an application they believe to be responsive to the FOA and in designing and writing their applications. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by objective review panels using the criteria described in Section V.1 of the FOA. The review panels will use the FOA as their principal guidance available to them in the same way that it is the principal guidance for applicants.

**Question:** If #1 is not allowed, what are the parameters and requirements when collaborating with community partners to provide preschool services?

**Response:** ACF does not provide direct guidance or instruction in the development of an applicant's project design or in writing their applications. Applicants should use their best judgment in determining whether they are able to meet the requirements contained in the FOA, whether they are able to develop an application they believe to be responsive to the FOA and in designing and writing their applications. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by objective review panels using the criteria described in Section V.1 of the FOA. The review panels will use the FOA as their principal guidance available to them in the same way that it is the principal guidance for applicants.