

## ***Head Start Collaboration Offices Needs Assessment***

The Head Start Act requires Head Start Collaboration Offices (HSCOs) to conduct a needs assessment of Head Start grantees in the State (including Early Head Start grantees) in the areas of coordination, collaboration alignment of services, and alignment of curricula and assessments used in Head Start programs with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, State Early Learning Standards

The Head Start Act also requires the HSCOs to use the results of the needs assessment to develop a strategic plan outlining how they will assist and support Head Start grantees in meeting the requirements of the Head Start Act for coordination, collaboration, transition to elementary school and alignment with K-12 education. HSCOs must also annually update the needs assessment and strategic plan and make the results of the needs assessment available to the general public within the State.

The purpose of gathering this information is to identify needs in the specified areas and inform the activities of the annually revised strategic plan for the Head Start Collaboration Offices.

The HSCOs focused their needs assessments on [National HSCO Priority Areas](#) for their work. These priority areas are: Health Services; Services for Children Experiencing Homelessness; Welfare; Child Welfare Child Care; Family Literacy; Services for Children with Disabilities; Community Services; Education and Professional Development. In addition, they also assessed Head Start grantees' needs in the areas of Head Start- Pre-K Partnership Development, and Head Start transition and Alignment with K-12.

Collaboration Offices are required to make the results of the needs assessment available to the general public in their respective States and for American Indian/Alaska Native and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs, their national service areas.

All Collaboration Offices needs assessment reports will be posted upon completion. The State of Ohio's Needs Assessment Report can be accessed at:

<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=470&ContentID=1950&Content=66282>