

2015-2016 PIR Change Highlights Summary

Key changes to the 2015-2016 Program Information Report (PIR) from the 2014-2015 Form are noted below. References to question numbers use the numbering from the 2015-2016 PIR. Additional information, including an Advance Copy of the 2015-2016 PIR form, is available on the ECLKC at the PIR web page at <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/pir>. Head Start and Early Head Start Programs may wish to review these documents **as they begin family application/intake for the 2015-2016 program year**.

New questions and questions with significant/restructuring changes were initially published for feedback in the Federal Register in summer 2014. Additional changes and additions to the 2015-2016 PIR were carefully considered based on grantee and public comments, HSES Help Desk feedback, and statutory and regulatory language.

A. Program Information

- **Instructions were clarified** for the question on child care subsidy [A.24]. Programs are asked to report the number of enrolled children for whom the program **and/or its partners** received a child care subsidy. This addition does not change the original intent of the question but clarifies it, in light of the new Early Head Start Expansion/Child Care Partnership grant awards.
- The previous questions on participants' race and ethnicity were **restructured into a single question** [A.25] to better align with the Census Bureau reporting. Programs will aggregate and report race and ethnicity slightly differently in the PIR but changes should not be needed in how individual families are asked to self-identify their race and self-identify their ethnicity. See parallel changes below for B.12.

B. Program Staff & Qualifications

- The previous questions on child development staff race and ethnicity were **restructured into a single question** [B.12] to better align with the Census Bureau reporting. Programs will aggregate and report race and ethnicity slightly differently in the PIR but changes should not be needed in how individual staff members are asked to self-identify their race and self-identify their ethnicity. See parallel changes above for A.25.
- The family and community partnership staff qualifications **question was restructured** [B.25] to better align with other staff qualification sections in the PIR. Additionally, a **new question** [B.26] asks about the number of staff with a family-development-related credential, regardless of highest level of education completed. Examples of how to record staff in B.25 and B.26 are provided on the 2015-2016 PIR Form.

C. Child & Family Services

- **New options were added** to the question on curricula for center-based programs [C.32.a], specifically: Frog Street Infant, Frog Street Toddler, and Frog Street Pre-K. Note that common titles are pre-populated in a dropdown for convenience; the Office of Head Start does not endorse specific curricula.
- **New questions were added** that ask about parent/guardian figures [C.36-37].
- A **question was added** regarding military veteran status of parents/guardians [C.40.b]. This new item compliments the existing question on parent/guardian employment in the United States military on active duty.
- **Questions were modified** in the sub-section on Federal or other assistance [C.41-44]. Previously the questions only asked about benefit receipt of families at enrollment. The modified questions ask about benefit receipt of families both at enrollment and at end of enrollment year.
- **New questions were added** about parent/guardian completion of education and job training programs during the Head Start program year [C.47-48]. Question C.47.a asks about families in which one or more parent/guardian completed a grade level in school prior to high school graduation (i.e. 8th grade, 11th grade). This change was made in response to public comments on the earlier proposed changes from programs working with teen parents.

- The Family Services **section was restructured** [C.50-51]. Previously, for each type of family service, programs reported the number of families that received the service during the program year. Now, for each type of service, programs will also report the number of families with an expressed interest or identified need during the program year.
- The “Father involvement” **sub-section was replaced** by “Father engagement” [C.52]. Previously, “Father involvement” asked programs to report on activities that had a specific focus **ONLY** on fathers or father figures. This new section on “Father engagement” is different, asking more broadly about father/father figure participation in program activities.
- **Clarifications were made** to the instructions for new questions C.47-48 and to the question text of C.51 based on public comments.
- Some **minor grammar and consistency edits** were made throughout as a continuing part of the PIR improvement process. These changes do not affect the intent or context of the questions or their instructions.