

GSRP/Head Start Blend Classrooms

PA 268 of 2008 provides an opportunity for a Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Formula or Competitive Grantee to choose to subcontract with Head Start to create a Full-Day GSRP/Head Start “Blend” within a classroom. This is accomplished by blending a Part-Day GSRP slot and a Part-Day Head Start slot to create the funding for a Full-Day GSRP/Head Start Blend slot for one child.

All Head Start and GSRP policies and regulations must be applied to the blended slots, with the highest standard from either program adhered to. In a few examples below the higher standard is shaded and therefore the one to be met for all children funded by the GSRP/HS Blended slots.

GSRP	Head Start
<p>Classroom Staff Qualifications: Teacher- Valid Michigan Teaching Certificate with an early childhood specialist endorsement (ZA).</p> <p>If sub-contracted, a lead teacher must have a valid Michigan teaching certificate with a ZA endorsement, OR a valid Michigan teaching certificate with a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential OR a bachelor’s degree in child development with a focus on teaching preschool.</p> <p>Result: A teacher meeting GSRP qualifications must be employed as the lead teacher for a classroom with GSRP/HS Blended slots.</p>	<p>Classroom Staff Qualifications : Each Head Start classroom in center-based programs must have a teacher who has at least one of the following qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Child Development Associate (CDA) credential that is appropriate to the age of the children being served; ▪ A State-awarded certificate for preschool teachers that meets or exceeds the requirements for a CDA credential; ▪ An associate, baccalaureate or advanced degree in early childhood education; ▪ An associate degree in a field related to early childhood education and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching preschool-age children; ▪ A baccalaureate or advanced degree in any field and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching preschool-age children or; ▪ A baccalaureate degree in any field and has been admitted into the Teach for America program, passed a rigorous early childhood content exam, such as the Praxis II, participated in a Teach for America summer training institute that includes teaching preschool children, and is receiving ongoing professional development and support from Teach for America’s professional staff.
<p>Screening: GSRP Grantees are required to ensure that all enrolled children participate in developmental screenings as described in the <i>Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten</i>.</p>	<p>Screening: Grantees must provide for developmental, hearing and vision screenings of all Early Head Start and Head Start children within 45 days of the child's entry into the program.</p> <p>Result: The Head Start requirement is inclusive of and goes beyond the GSRP requirement. Therefore it is the requirement that must be applied to all children funded by GSRP/HS Blended slots.</p>
<p>Home Visits, Parent/Teacher Conferences: A minimum of two home visits and two parent/teacher conferences.</p> <p>Result: The parent contact requirements match. Therefore a minimum of two home visits and two parent/teacher conferences are required for all children funded by GSRP/HS Blended slots.</p>	<p>Home Visits, Parent/Teacher Conferences: A minimum of two home visits and two parent/teacher conferences.</p>

- All children funded by the GSRP/Head Start Blend must qualify for and be concurrently enrolled in both programs.
- Children in the class may be funded from a variety of sources, but **all** must attend for the full day.
- The teaching team, which includes one lead teacher and an associate teacher, must remain the same for the entire day, every day the class is scheduled. If 17 or 18 children are enrolled, a third consistent adult must be present for the entire day also.
- If the program operates five days per week, staff must have time for planning, professional development and parent involvement.
- Additional staff members must be available to allow the lead teacher and associate teacher (and third adult, if required) time for required breaks. At no time may the adult/child ratio exceed 1:8.