



## **GSRP/Head Start Blend Waiver Form 2023-24**

Public Act 103 of 2023, Section 32d (7) allows for a waiver process to facilitate MDE approval of the application of Head Start national standards for quality under certain circumstances for subrecipients implementing the **GSRP/Head Start Blend** program option to align requirements between the two programs.

*Sec. 32d (7) For a grant recipient that enrolls pupils in a GSRP/Head Start blended program, the grant recipient shall ensure that all Head Start and GSRP policies and regulations are applied to the blended slots, with adherence to the highest standard from either program to the extent allowable under federal law. A grant recipient may request a waiver from the department to align GSRP policies and regulations with Head Start national standards for quality, including ratios, and the department may approve the waiver. Not later than March 1 of each year, the department will report to the legislature and post on a publicly available website a list by intermediate district or consortium with the number and type of each waiver requested and approved.*

Legislation indicates that the waiver is to be submitted to the department by the grant recipient. Intermediate school districts (ISDs) are the only eligible grantees for GSRP.

A Head Start subrecipient seeking a waiver may submit one or more requests to the ISD for consideration. The ISD **must** review each waiver and if approved, submit to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) for final approval. A collaborative approach between the ISD and the Head Start subrecipient increases the likelihood of a successful waiver submission.

The waiver form must be completed and submitted for approval annually.

A Head Start subrecipient seeking waivers from multiple GSRP requirements, will need to complete a separate form for each request, i.e., if seeking waivers from two requirements, the subrecipient will need to submit two forms. A Head Start subrecipient that partners with multiple ISDs must submit a form to each ISD with impacted classrooms.

**Request for a “blanket” waiver of all GSRP requirements that are higher standards than Head Start program standards will be denied.**



## **GSRP/Head Start Blend Waiver Form 2023-24**

**Date of request:**

**ISD:**

**Head Start Subrecipient:**

**Head Start Representative Submitting Request:**

Subrecipient's waiver request applies to the following:

Classroom       Site       ISD-wide

If completing a waiver for multiple classrooms, add an attachment with the sites and classrooms listed that this waiver would apply to.

**Please provide the following information for consideration.**

1. Provide a detailed description of the specific GSRP requirement the Head Start subrecipient is requesting a waiver for in their GSRP/Head Start Blend classrooms.
  
2. Provide justification for the requested waiver of the GSRP requirement, including a detailed description of program specific data of the GSRP/Head Start Blend classrooms included in this request. CLASS scores for each classroom included in the waiver should be provided along with teacher longevity and experience.
  
3. Provide details on how the Head Start subrecipient will assure the highest level of program quality and integrity of GSRP programming, while not meeting the higher standard of the two programs.
  
4. What impact might the waiver request have on children and families served in these classrooms?



**ISD Review:**

Approved

Comments:

Not Approved

Reason:

Signature:

Date:

**MDE Review:**

Approved

Comments:

Not Approved

Reason:

Signature:

Date: