

EARLY LEARNING HUBS

414-900-0005

Applicability of Rules

(1) OAR 414-900-0005 through 414-900-0020 set forth the purpose and functions of Early Learning Hubs (Hubs).

(2) OAR 414-900-0005 through 414-900-0020 set forth the criteria used by the Early Learning Council (ELC) to select Hubs.

Stat. Auth.: Section 4, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011

Stat. Implemented: Section 16, chapter ____, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 2013)

414-900-0010

Definitions

(1) “Administrative Overhead” means any dollar that is not spent directly on services for children or on preparing and evaluating services for children. This is the cost of operating administrative functions within the Hub and its subcontractors and may include staff duties such as payroll processing and data entry and non-program related costs including space, supplies and phones.

(2) “At Poverty Level” means at 100% of federal poverty guidelines as adopted by the United States Department of Health and Human Service .

(3) “At Risk” means a child who is at risk of not entering school ready to learn due to factors including but not limited to:

(a) Living in a household that is at or near poverty, as determined under federal poverty guidelines;

(b) Living in inadequate or unsafe housing; having inadequate nutrition;

(c) Living in a household where there is significant or documented domestic conflict, disruption or violence;

(d) Having a parent who suffers from mental illness, who engages in substance abuse or who experiences a developmental disability or an intellectual disability;

(e) Living in circumstances under which there is neglectful or abusive care-giving; or

(f) Having unmet health care and medical treatment needs and having a racial or ethnic minority status that is historically consistent with disproportionate overrepresentation in academic achievement gaps or in the systems of child welfare, foster care or juvenile or adult corrections.

(4) “Community of interest” means a special population not constrained by geography.

(5) “Early Childhood Services” means programs and services for children ages 0 through 6 years of age that address language and literacy development, cognition and general knowledge and learning approaches, physical health and well-being, motor development and social and emotional development.

(6) “Early Learning Hub” means an existing or newly created entity designated by regional partners to coordinate early learning services designed to produce better outcomes for children: increase kindergarten readiness for at-risk children, to increase the stable and attached families and to ensure system coordination and efficiency in order to attain Oregon’s 40-40-20 Educational Goal. Regional partners may include counties, cities, school districts, education service districts, community colleges, public universities, private educational institutions, faith based organizations, nonprofit service providers, and tribes.

Stat. Auth.: Section 4, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011

Stat. Implemented: Section 16, chapter ____, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 2013)

414-900-0015

Early Learning Hubs Purpose and Functions

Hubs are established to coordinate services to children ages 0 through 6 in a specific geographic area or community of interest, i.e., a special population not constrained by geography in order to produce better outcomes for children. Hubs are vested with the authority to distribute state and federal funds, coordinate services for children and purchase services for children and families. Hubs can leverage public and private funds in their efforts to attain results. Because Hubs are established to coordinate services with current service providers and, or purchase new services to support specific child centered outcomes, including kindergarten readiness, a Hub that provides direct services must meet additional criteria set forth in OAR 414-900-0020(1)(g)(F).

(1) Hubs must:

(a) Account for outcomes that benefit children within the Hub geographic area or community of interest by:

(A) Aligning service delivery focused on outcomes across five functional sectors and be able to prove that entities that represent the following five functional sectors are participating in the Hub:

- (i) health care services,
- (ii) human and social services,
- (iii) education services,
- (iv) early childhood services, and
- (v) business.

(B) Ensuring that service providers which the Hub coordinates and contracts with are also accountable to the Hub for client-level outcomes supporting Oregon's 40-40-20 Educational Goal.

(b) Complete a community readiness assessment to determine the readiness to effectively coordinate services to achieve outcomes by:

(A) Working with providers the Hub plans to contract with to ensure readiness to provider efficient, outcome focused services, and

(B) Using the community readiness assessment to connect services to outcomes and resources.

(c) Map and coordinate funding to maximize the return of the investment by:

(A) Creating a comprehensive children's budget for the Hub territory modeled on the state level comprehensive children's budget,

(B) Mapping all local, state, federal and philanthropic dollars currently available or committed to the proposed service area and ensuring funders are willing to collaborate toward a set of shared outcomes advancing Oregon's 40-40-20 Educational Goal,

(C) Ensuring that contracted service providers are accountable for providing services in a cost efficient manner, and

(D) Ensuring that no more than 15% of the total funds received from the ELC go toward administrative overhead by the end of the contract period.

(d) If individuals spend more than 15% of their time on administrative functions, their salaries and expenses must be prorated between program and administrative overhead.

(e) Reporting to the ELC on making progress towards the following outcomes:

(A) Kindergarten readiness, in support of Oregon's 40-40-20 Educational Goal,

(B) Stable and attached families, and

(C) System coordination and efficiency.

(2) Reports shall be submitted by the Hub to appropriate interim legislative committee and the ELC by January 1, 2014.

Stat. Auth.: Section 4, chapter 519, Oregon Laws 2011

Stat. Implemented: Section 16, chapter ____, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 2013)

414-900-0020

Selection Criteria for Hub Contracts

The Early Learning Council may fund no more than seven Hub Demonstration Projects in fiscal year 2013-2014. The ELC will release a request for applications for Hubs in August 2013. A Hub may provide services to a geographic area or a community of interest. The ELC and Hubs, through either communities of geography or communities of interest, will serve no fewer than 50,000 at risk children in year one.

(1) The ELC will award Hub Demonstration Project contracts based on the degree to which any individual Hub demonstrates the following application criteria:

(a) Representation of the five functional sectors: health care services, human and social services, education services, early childhood services, and business in its governance

(b) A defined service area and cross-sector coordination, including identifying a target population and high quality services for at-risk children and their families,

(c) Accountability for outcomes and return on investment, including improving the results for at-risk children by the ability to identify, evaluate and implement coordinated strategies for ensuring that a child is ready to succeed at school,

(d) Ability to coordinate the provision of early learning services across five functional sectors to the community served by the Hub through a governance model or community advisory body that was transparently selected and includes:

(A) Formal partnership agreements from the following sectors: early childhood education, K-12 education, coordinated care organizations and other public health entities, human services, the private sector and local governments within the proposed service area.

(B) Ability of governance body to initiate audits, recommend terms of contracts for service providers and provide outcome reports to the public and to the ELC.

(e) Ability to demonstrate that parents of at-risk children have meaningfully participated in the creation of Hub strategies and plans and will serve an ongoing role as part of the entity's governing structure and will be the foundation of Hub service design, reflecting the principle that children are best raised and supported in families.

(f) Commitment and ability to serve at least 40% of the population of at-risk children in the entity's proposed service area by the end of year 2.

(g) Commitment to collect and track system and client level data using a unique identifier for each child served.

(h) Demonstration of business acumen and operational stability, including:

(A) Use of coordinated and transparent budgeting for all providers funded directly by the Hub,

(B) Documentation of previous financial audits and cash reserves, as well as liability insurance as required by state law,

(C) Ability to provide a match of 25% of funds distributed to the entity by the ELC,

(D) Ability to keep administrative overhead at or below 15% across the Early Learning System, and

(E) Ability to provide monthly financial reports to Early Learning Division staff.

(F) Ability to identify with which federal, state or other funding streams if the lead applicant provides direct services to children covered by the Hub.

(i) Identify any financial, role or function conflict of interest

(ii) Provide a plan for how those conflicts will be managed

(iii) Provide evidence of financial and functional separation and risk independence of the lead applicant's direct service delivery function from the Hub function.

(2) Any application that does not meet the criteria is not eligible for the award of a Hub contract.

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