

§ 1306.34

45 CFR Ch. XIII (10–1–05 Edition)

(1) Provide one home visit per week per family (a minimum of 32 home visits per year) lasting for a minimum of 1 and ½ hours each.

(2) Provide, at a minimum, two group socialization activities per month for each child (a minimum of 16 group socialization activities each year).

(3) Make up planned home visits or scheduled group socialization activities that were canceled by the grantee or by program staff when this is necessary to meet the minimums stated above. Medical or social service appointments may not replace home visits or scheduled group socialization activities.

(4) Allow staff sufficient employed time to participate in pre-service training, to plan and set up the program at the start of the year, to close the program at the end of the year, to maintain records, and to keep component and activities plans current and relevant. These activities should take place when no home visits or group socialization activities are planned.

(5) Maintain an average caseload of 10 to 12 families per home visitor with a maximum of 12 families for any individual home visitor.

(b) Home visits must be conducted by trained home visitors with the content of the visit jointly planned by the home visitor and the parents. Home visitors must conduct the home visit with the participation of parents. Home visits may not be conducted by the home visitor with only babysitters or other temporary caregivers in attendance.

(1) The purpose of the home visit is to help parents improve their parenting skills and to assist them in the use of the home as the child's primary learning environment. The home visitor must work with parents to help them provide learning opportunities that enhance their child's growth and development.

(2) Home visits must, over the course of a month, contain elements of all Head Start program components. The home visitor is the person responsible for introducing, arranging and/or providing Head Start services.

(c) Group socialization activities must be focused on both the children and parents. They may not be con-

ducted by the home visitor with babysitters or other temporary caregivers.

(1) The purpose of these socialization activities for the children is to emphasize peer group interaction through age appropriate activities in a Head Start classroom, community facility, home, or on a field trip. The children are to be supervised by the home visitor with parents observing at times and actively participating at other times.

(2) These activities must be designed so that parents are expected to accompany their children to the group socialization activities at least twice each month to observe, to participate as volunteers or to engage in activities designed specifically for the parents.

(3) Grantees must follow the nutrition requirements specified in 45 CFR 1304.23(b)(2) and provide appropriate snacks and meals to the children during group socialization activities.

[57 FR 58092, Dec. 8, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 57227, Nov. 5, 1996]

§ 1306.34 Combination program option.

(a) *Combination program option requirements:* (1) Grantees implementing a combination program option must provide class sessions and home visits that result in an amount of contact with children and families that is, at a minimum, equivalent to the services provided through the center-based program option or the home-based program option.

(2) Acceptable combinations of minimum number of class sessions and corresponding number of home visits are shown below. Combination programs must provide these services over a period of 8 to 12 months.

Number of class sessions	Number of home visits
96	8
92–95	9
88–91	10
84–87	11
80–83	12
76–79	13
72–75	14
68–71	15
64–67	16
60–63	17
56–59	18
52–55	19
48–51	20
44–47	21
40–43	22
36–39	23

Number of class sessions	Number of home visits
32-35	24

(3) The following are examples of various configurations that are possible for a program that operates for 32 weeks:

- A program operating classes three days a week and providing one home visit a month (96 classes and 8 home visits a year);
- A program operating classes two days a week and providing two home visits a month (64 classes and 16 home visits a year);
- A program operating classes one day a week and providing three home visits a month (32 classes and 24 home visits a year).

(4) Grantees operating the combination program option must make a reasonable estimate of the number of days during a year that centers may be closed due to problems such as inclement weather or illness, based on their experience in previous years. Grantees must make provisions in their budgets and program plans to operate make-up classes up to the estimated number, and provide these classes, when necessary, to prevent the number of days of classes from falling below the number required by paragraph (a)(2) of this section. Grantees must make up planned home visits that were canceled by the program or by the program staff if this is necessary to meet the minimums required by paragraph (a)(2) of this section. Medical or social service appointments may not replace home visits.

(b) *Requirements for class sessions:* (1) Grantees implementing the combination program option must comply with the class size requirements contained in §1306.32(a).

(2) The provisions of the following sections apply to grantees operating the combination program option: §1306.32(b) (2), (5), (6), (7) and (9).

(3) If a grantee operates a double session or a full day variation, it must meet the provisions concerning double-sessions contained in §1306.32(c)(1) and (3) and the provisions for the center-based program option's full day variation found in §1306.32(d).

(c) *Requirements for home visits:* (1) Home visits must last for a minimum of 1 and ½ hours each.

(2) The provisions of the following section, concerning the home-based program option, must be adhered to by grantees implementing the combination program option: §1306.33(a) (4) and (5); and §1306.33(b).

§ 1306.35 Additional Head Start program option variations.

In addition to the center-based, home-based and combination program options defined above, the Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families retains the right to fund alternative program variations to meet the unique needs of communities or to demonstrate or test alternative approaches for providing Head Start services.

§ 1306.36 Compliance waiver.

An exception to one or more of the requirements contained in §§1306.32 through 1306.34 of subpart C will be granted only if the Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families determines, on the basis of supporting evidence, that the grantee made a reasonable effort to comply with the requirement but was unable to do so because of limitations or circumstances with a specific community or communities served by the grantee.

PART 1308—HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS ON SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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