

Questions and Responses
Introduction to Early Head Start Webinar
Aired - January 7, 2010

Where can I get a copy of the Early Head Start (EHS) Resource Library box? Is it possible to order multiple copies and if so, is there's a cost?

Two EHS Resource Library boxes were mailed to the recently funded American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) EHS expansion programs. They were sent to the contact person listed on the grant application. If you do not receive it by mid-February, please contact the Early Head Start National Resource Center (EHS NRC) by e-mail at ehsnrcinfo@zerotothree.org.

At this point in time, we can't provide additional boxes; however the majority of the resources inside the Library are accessible via the webs: the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) [ECLKC.ohs.acf.hhs.gov] and the EHS NRC [www.ehsnrc.org].

Where can I get information on or access a start-up planner?

The Office of Head Start recently funded a task order, using ARRA funds, to identify and train a cadre of EHS start-up planners. Information on this effort will be available at the ECLKC [ECLKC.ohs.acf.hhs.gov].

When the two years end, how can we convert slots to Early Head Start?

There are over 600 newly funded EHS programs through ARRA money. We know that ARRA funds are two-year funds. The Office of Head Start is committed to continuing this work; however, does not have specific details at this time.

What are some ways to stay alerted to new resources?

The ECLKC has several alert features that you can sign up on the website [ECLKC.ohs.acf.hhs.gov]. These alerts include "What's New" as well as newly posted Information Memorandums (IMs) and Program Informations (PIs).

The EHS NRC [www.ehsnrc.org] has two venues to consider. On the Products and Publications page you can sign up to receive a periodic newsletter, "New You Can Use", as well as alerts for new products and publications from the EHS NRC.

On the EHS NRC home page, you can sign up for the Early Head Start program Listserv. This Listserv is an opportunity for staff from Early Head Start programs, nation-wide, to ask questions or share resources with each other.

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How do I registration for the March EHS National Orientation conference?

Registration information regarding the EHS National Orientation conferences has been sent directly to newly funded programs. The Orientation is designed is to provide foundational information regarding the core concepts of what is essential to delivering the highest quality services when implementing the Early Head Start program. Orientation provides direct information as well as time for program teams to reflect and plan for implementing new or expanding services. Orientation information is available on the EHS NRC website [www.ehsnrc.org]. EHS National Orientations will be held in the metro Washington, DC area on the following dates:

- February 1 – 4, 2010,
- March 1 – 4, 2010,
- March 8 – 11, 2010.

Is it required for existing EHS programs that are expanding services attend the National Orientation conference?

Yes. All programs have technical assistance (TA) dollars to support attendance to both the National Orientation conference and the Birth To Three Institute. There hasn't been an EHS Orientation since 2002. EHS Orientation is designed to provide foundational information that includes the core concepts of what is essential to delivering the highest quality services when implementing the Early Head Start program. Orientation also includes opportunity to hear from Federal staff and to network with other programs. One of the best resources available for programs developing new services are the lessons learned by seasoned programs and staff. Orientation and the Birth To Three Institute provide opportunities for a diverse group of new and experienced, seasoned program staff to connect and network.

Can we divide our team of four amongst the various Orientation events? Can we send more than four staff to Orientation?

The Office of Head Start's expectation is that each newly funded for EHS expansion program will send a team of four to represent the grantee (and additional teams of four to represent any delegate agencies) to attend the same Orientation event. It is advisable the grantee and delegate teams attend the same Orientation event.