

Questions from the May 19th Bidders Call/Webinar

- **How many openings are available for each center?**
This will be negotiated as part of the contract process. First Steps has a finite number of total slots to allocate across 11 counties in the current grant. The number of slots contracted to each school and community will be based on both need and the availability of high-quality providers in the applicant pool. In your application, please propose the number of classrooms you would be able to dedicate to Early Head Start services (8 children per classroom).
- **If a child moves or leaves the EHS program at my center will I lose my funding?**
No. When an enrollment slot becomes available, the waiting list will be reviewed to determine which child is next for enrollment by priority points. Each vacancy will be filled within 30 days.
- **What are the steps for a center to receive money for renovations?**
First Steps will conduct a site visit to review renovation needs. Reimbursement amounts will be established prior to contract signing. Approved renovations will begin as soon as possible for the next school year. (The current goal is July-August for necessary renovations.)
- **Will a 3-year-old child be kicked out of the EHS classroom on his/her 3rd birthday?** No. A transition planning process designed to ensure an appropriate placement will begin 6 months prior to the child's third birthday. If no appropriate placement is available, the child may remain in the program until the end of the program year.
- **Will it take the same amount of time for an existing partner to be approved as it will for a new partner?**
This process may be faster for a center that is an existing Head Start partner because we will already have many of the necessary records for your center on file.
- **My staff members do not have Child Development Associate credentials. Are we still eligible to work with Early Head Start?**
Yes. SCFS will work with you to certify all appropriate staff members (lead teachers and assistants). Funding for CDA training is available to help partners meet this requirement.
- **Will CDA training be available at a local technical college?**
Not necessarily, but EHS will work with your staff to ensure this training is completed.
- **Can a degree be any 2- or 4-year degree? Or a degree in Elementary Education in lieu of CDA certification?**
No. All EHS teachers must have - at least - an Infant-Toddler CDA (or its equivalent). An associate's degree or a Bachelor's degree in early childhood education is also acceptable.
- **For more information about Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships:**
<http://scfirststeps.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EHS-CCP-Bidders-Conference-Presentation-Slides-2017-Final.pdf>