



# Review of Early Head Start Program Governance Screener



NATIONAL CENTER ON  
Program Management and Fiscal Operations

## Governance, Leadership, and Oversight Capacity Screener

### Introduction

Organizations that accept federal funds to operate Head Start and/or Early Head Start programs must have strong governance systems in place to safeguard federal dollars and provide oversight and direction to the Head Start program.

This screener organizes the Head Start requirements to help organizations identify where they need to make changes and build capacity to fulfill their Head Start governance responsibilities.

### Suggestions for Use

1. Print a copy of this screener.
2. Have your organization's governing body or Tribal Council chair, Policy Council chair, executive director, and Head Start program director work together to review the table beginning on page 3 and to identify (with a check mark or "X") the following items:
  - i. Required Head Start governance practices that your organization currently has in place
  - ii. Required Head Start governance practices that your organization will implement within the first three months of funding
  - iii. Required Head Start governance practices that your organization needs help understanding and implementing
3. On the final page of this document list the governance practices and regulations that your organization needs assistance in understanding and implementing.
4. Enter any questions or concerns you have in the comments section on the final page of this document.
5. Share this screener and your findings with your full governing body or Tribal Council, Policy Council, and Head Start program leadership. Assign people to begin implementation of the governance practices you have identified as not currently in place.
6. You can explore the [Organizational Leadership](#) page on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) to access other resources that can assist you as you move your governance system and practices forward.
7. At your next meeting with Regional Office staff, discuss those governance practices and regulations where your organization may benefit from technical assistance.