**MISSISSIPPI COUNTY, ARKANSAS, E.O.C.**

**EARLY CHIDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**1302.22**

**HOME-BASED OPTION**

**POLICY**:

The MCAEOC home-based option will deliver the full range of services, consistent with §1302.20 b, through visits with the child's parents, primarily in the child's home and through group socialization opportunities in a Head Start/ Early Head Start classroom, community facility, home, or on field trips.

**PROCEDURE:**

**1.0 Home-Based Option**

1.1 For the Early Head Start program, the home-based option may be used to deliver services to some or all of the program’s enrolled children.

1.2 For the Head Start program, the home-based option may only be used to deliver services to a portion of a program’s enrolled children.

**2.0 Caseload**

2.1 When implementing the home-based option, the program maintains an average caseload of 10 to 12 families per Home Visitor with a maximum of 12 families for any individual Home Visitor.

**3.0 Service Duration**

* 1. By August 1, 2017, the Early Head Start home-based program must:
1. Provide one home visit per week per family that lasts at least an hour and a half and provide a minimum of 46 visits per year; and,
2. Provide, at a minimum, 22 group socialization activities distributed over the course of the program year.
	1. The Head Start home-based program must:
3. Provide one home visit per week per family that lasts at least an hour and a half and provide a minimum of 32 visits per year; and,
4. Provide, at a minimum, 16 group socialization activities distributed over the course of the program year.

**4.0 Minimum Requirements**

4.1 When implementing the home-based option, the program:

1. Makes up planned home visits or scheduled group socialization activities that were canceled by the program, and to the extent possible attempts to make up planned home visits canceled by the family, when this is necessary to meet the minimums described above; and,
2. Does not replace home visits or scheduled group socialization activities for medical or social service appointments for the purposes of meeting the minimum requirements described above.

**5.0 Safety Requirements**

5.1 The areas for learning, playing, sleeping, toileting, preparing food, and eating in facilities used for group socializations in the home-based option meet the safety standards described in §1302.47 1 ii through viii (see [Policy ID 63000 (HPS‐SP) Safety Practices](#Pol63000_HPSSP_SafetyPractices)).