



Practice Alert

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START PARTICIPATION WITH THE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The purpose of this Practice Alert is to remind FSD and CD staff that child care subsidy **cannot** be used to pay for **core** Head Start/Early Head Start program hours. Core hours are hours of direct care services paid for by other funding, i.e. Federal Head Start funds. **Head Start/Early Head Start programs cannot charge core hours to the Child Care Assistance Program.**

A Head Start/Early Head Start program may be paid for providing care during **non-core** hours for an eligible child attending the program. **Non-core hours** are those hours where direct care services are offered but not paid through alternate funding.

If needed, FSD and CD staff may consult with the Child Care Provider Relations Unit (CCPRU) to find the Head Start/Early Head Start programs core hours of operation.

Go to <http://dssweb/fsd/manual/chldcare/1225-050-00.html> to view the Head Start and Early Head Start Child Care Assistance Participation policy.

Go to http://dssweb/cs/pracpoints/child_care.htm to view child care practice points and alerts.

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Issued 3/8/13