



Orange County Government

Orange County
Administration Center
201 S Rosalind Ave.
Orlando, FL 32802-1393

Legislation Text

File #: 25-218, **Version:** 1

Interoffice Memorandum

DATE: January 22, 2025

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings and County Commissioners

THROUGH: Venerria L. Thomas, Director

FROM: Sonya L. Hill, Manager

CONTACT: Sandra Moore

PHONE: 407-836-8913

DIVISION: Head Start Division

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Orange County Head Start Eligibility Priority Selection Criteria for 2025-2026 to establish a formal selection process for eligible children and families. **(Head Start Division)**

PROJECT: N/A

PURPOSE: The Head Start Division requests Board approval of Orange County Head Start Eligibility Priority Selection Criteria 2025-2026. The eligibility priority selection criteria is required to establish a formal selection process, as mandated by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 and Head Start Program Performance Standard 1302.14 which indicates that a program must annually establish selection criteria that weighs the prioritization of selection of participants, based on community needs identified in the community needs assessment as described in §1302.11 (b).

The eligibility priority selection criteria awards more points for at-risk children and families with lower income at or below 100% of the poverty level. The Head Start Policy Council approved the eligibility priority selection criteria on December 19, 2024.

BUDGET: N/A

Orange County Head Start

Eligibility Priority Selection Criteria for 2025-2026

APPROVED BY ORANGE
COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

BCC Mtg. Date: February 11, 2025

Eligibility Priority Selection Criteria Requirements	Current Points 2024-2025	Proposed Points 2025-2026	Source
Age Criteria			
4 years	95	95	HSPPS
3 years	55	55	HSPPS
Eligibility Criteria			
Homeless McKinney Vento Act	500	500	HSPPS/CA 2022 Page 51-53
Homeless with limited English proficiency/unsheltered McKinney	510	510	HSPPS/CA 2022 Page 53
Foster Child	400	400	HSPPS
Public Assistance: Currently on TANF/SSI/SNAP	100	100	HSPPS/CA 2022 Page 42 & 96 -100
Income eligible: 0%-25% Poverty Level	125	125	HSPPS
Income Eligible: 26%-50% Poverty Level	100	100	HSPPS
Income eligible:51%-75% Poverty Level	75	75	HSPPS
Income eligible:76%-100% Poverty Level	50	50	HSPPS
Over Income: Over 100% Poverty Level	0	0	HSPPS
Disability Criteria			
Diagnosed (Public School IEP)	300	300	CA2022 Page 58-60
Diagnosed (documented by professional)	100	100	CA2022 Page 58-60
Suspected (documented by professional)	25	25	CA2022 Page 58-60
Parent concerns (with no documentation)	10	10	CA2022 Page 58-60; Program Data Report 3501
Family Risk Factors (choose all that apply)			
Child Abuse/Neglected (documented by an agency)	10	10	CA2022 Page 75
Family without Access to Medical Care	10	10	CA2022 Page 62
Currently, one or both parents/legal guardians are unemployed and looking for employment	10	10	CA 2022 Page 38
Currently, income earned is not enough to cover rent and basic needs	10	10	CA 2022 Page 37 & 108
Foster, Kinship, legal guardian, relative caregivers (documented by an agency) or due to incarcerations of parents, substance abuse by parents, illness, disability, death, etc.	10	10	CA 2022 Page 75

Eligibility Priority Selection Criteria Requirements	Current Points 2024-2025	Proposed Points 2025-2026	Source
Grandparents Caregivers or guardian	10	10	CA 2022 Page 75
Immigrants/Refugees (documented by an agency)	10	10	CA 2022 Page 26
Unauthorized immigrants unaffiliated with any agency	10	10	CA 2022 Page 26
Single Parent	10	10	CA2022 Page 29
Limited access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation	10	10	CA2022 Page 36
Food insecurity (lack of food during the month/without food stamps)	10	10	CA 2022 Page 70 & 108
Child without access to medical care	10	10	CA 2022 Page 62
Child/family lack of English proficiency	10	10	CA 2022 Page 26-31
A sibling currently enrolled in Early Head Start or Head Start	10	10	CA 2022 Page 28, 40, 79, 96, 97, 108
Child risk factors			
Health chronic illness (documented by an agency)	10	10	CA 2022 Page 65
Child nutritional needs (special diet/WIC- Documented by a professional)	10	10	CA 2022 Page 69
Transition and Continuation of Services			
Transitioning from Early Head Start/Head Start Program	200	200	HSPPS
2024-2025 Eligible Waitlisted Child	10	10	