

Big Sandy Area C.A.P., Inc. - HEAD START
Program Policies and Procedures

Lead Assessment

POLICY:

All children will be assessed for lead poisoning within 90 calendar days of enrollment

- *This policy relates to Head Start Performance Standards 45 CFR Part 1304.20(a)*

PROCEDURE:

1. The EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis & Treatment) schedule recommends that children should receive a lead screening at 9 and 24 months of age and up to 72 months of age if they did not receive a screening earlier. During the intake/enrollment process prior to entry into the Head Start classroom, staff will inform the parent/guardian of the program's health requirements and determine if the child is up-to-date on the recommended schedule. (See determining Child's Health Status Policy)
2. Staff will assist parent/guardian to complete The Preventive Health Questionnaire that includes the Written Lead Assessment. All questions are to be completed. All children, new and returning, will complete this form. The hard copy will be filed in Child's Health Folder and recorded on the COPA Medical Record.
3. A referral will be made to the local health department or the child's physician for follow-up at their discretion if:
 - a. the child has not previously had a lead blood screening.
 - b. the parent answers **YES** to any question on the Lead Risk Assessment other than, "the child has had a lead screening."
 - c. screening results indicate a blood level of **5** ug/dl and above.
4. Program staff /Family Advocate will assist the parent /guardian in making and keeping appointments or arranging transportation assistance.

5. All Results will be entered on the COPA Medical Record under Lead Screening as follows:
 - The Preventive Health Questionnaire will serve as our program’s “written lead assessment”. For 1st year students, the lead assessment will be entered in the “Lead” section as the 12 mo screening. For returning students, it will be identified as the 6 mo screening .
 - For the Lead Screening, staff will enter the result as 24 mo for 1st year students and 18 mo (if updated) for returning students.
6. The Family advocate will follow-up and track lead assessments and lead blood screening results using the same procedure used for other screening and exams. (See Tracking –Follow-Up policy)

Policy Council Updated: *March 2016*