

Part C Public Hearing #2
April 11, 2019

>>> The webinar will be starting at 9:00. Thank you.

>> Good morning. Thank you for joining the second public hearing on the 2019 part C application revised policies. I'm Sara Massman, assistant director for first steps compliance. Participants in this public hearing, the hearing is being recorded. To find the recording, visit the webinar page at the link on the screen and click on the recorded webinar's button. This hearing is provided to you with closed captioning. You may submit comments by typing in the chat window. Comments will be read allowed during the hearing. The recording, presentation slides and other documents from today's hearing will be hosted to the DESE website. The department of elementary and secondary education or DESE, office of special education is the lead administrative agency for part C of the individuals with disabilities education act or IDEA. The Missouri part C program otherwise known as first steps provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities from birth to age 3 and their families. The purpose of today's hearing is that IDEA requires that each part C application contain a description of the policies and procedures used to ensure a smooth transition for children and part C to preschool or other appropriate services and the state's efforts to promote collaboration among head start and early head start programs under the head start act, early education and child care services under part C. IDEA also requires that's DESE hold public hearings and provide the general public the opportunity to make comments before adopting any new or revised policy or POJ. -- or procedure. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comments on the revisions to the intraagency agreement between first steps or part C and early childhood special education or part B of IDEA and the state level memorandum of understanding or MLU between Missouri head start, Missouri department of elementary and secondary education and Missouri department of social services. The following is an explanation of the hearing and changes process. We are holding two public hearings via webinar, the one today and one was previously held on March 18th. We are taking written comments until the close of business on April 15th, 2019. Following the April 15th deadline for receiving written comments we will review all comments submitted and make one of three decisions. To make the change as proposed, make the change with revisions or not make the change. Comments will be summarized and published on the first steps rules and regulations page. You may comment on any of the revised policies at any time during the hearing. Questions on the revised policies may be submitted to the e-mail address shown on this slide. We will now begin the public hearing for the revised policies in 2019 part C application. Part one of this hearing is on the revisions to the intra-agency agreement between first steps and early childhood special education. The document can be found by going to the link indicated below on the webinar page. All of the documents referenced in this hearing are linked in the sells message which can be found at the link on the screen. Revisions to the transition intra- agency agreement include the following updates. The use of local educational agency or LEA throughout the document when referencing the sending of directory information from first steps to the LEA to align with current guidance. On page 5 the use of early childhood special education or ECSC when referencing an invitation and participation at the first steps transition conference to align with current guidance. And on page 7, the renewal terms of the agreement to remove the five-year renewal requirement and replace it with an automatic annual

renewal. Over all the changes to the intra-agency agreement were nonsubstantial and changes in practice. We updated wording as the last agreement was signed in November of 2014. Next we will move to part two of the hearing on the revisions to the state level memorandum of understanding or MOU between Missouri head start, Missouri department of elementary and secondary education and the Missouri department of social services. Again, the MOU can be found by clicking the link to the sells message on the webinar page. The revisions to the head start MOU include over all it was written to be more inclusive of all families served by the participating agencies, more focused on promoting integration of all early childhood programs to enhance coordination and awareness of programs and resources that address the needs of all children. We separated part C or first steps and part B or ECSC information into addendums at the end of the document to provide more details about each program. Also we updated the early programs chart to reflect current resources. At this time we will pause to review any comments received thus far on the revisions. At this time we have not received any comments. The webinar will stay open until 10:00 a.m. As a reminder, you may make comments in the chat box until that time. I will announce periodically that the webinar is still open and read aloud any comments received.

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