



HSU Course Outline

Managing Disabilities Services

OCEHSD0058v.1

6 weeks

Description

This in-depth 6 weeks online course is specifically designed to provide Head Start disabilities staff with the skills and knowledge needed to plan and implement integrated services for children with disabilities. Students will find the resources in this course useful in understanding their program's children with disabilities and learning ways to support them. You will be given best practices and procedures to promote interagency collaboration, and assist programs in establishing recruitment and enrollment plans to reach out to children with disabilities. You will learn how to take a critical look at your program's disabilities services and teams and ensure that you have considerable experiences and how to develop a broader view of roles and set more collaborative and coordinated way of working with each other, with LEAs and with other community agencies.

Prerequisites

- Head Start Knowledge
- An understanding of IEP's
- Understanding of Performance Standards

Who Should Take This Course?

This course is designed for Head Start disabilities manager and service teams. It will also be useful to home visitors, family service workers, managers, parents and related service providers.

Objectives

- ✓ Recognize the respective and shared roles and responsibilities of team members in managing their team members
- ✓ Identify how team practices can directly affect children with disabilities
- ✓ Identify critical points in disabilities services practices
- ✓ Recognize the implications of the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
- ✓ Evaluate the accessibility of your program's facilities and services and identify strategies for reasonable accommodations
- ✓ Adapt employment practices so that they reflect the rights and protections afforded
- ✓ Assess your program's working relationship with LEAs (local education agency)
- ✓ Identify objectives and strategies for strengthening the collaboration with LEAs

Outline

Identifying Shared Responsibilities

- Setting Program Goals for Disabilities Services
- How manager's decisions affect children's experiences

A Look at IDEA and Section 504

- What it means for your program
- Aspects that influence employment practices
- Program Accessibility: Using guidelines consistent with the law
- Strategies to eliminate barriers in your program

Collaborating with LEAs

- Myths and Reality
- Procedural Safeguards
- Role of the IEP meetings
- Strategies for promoting collaboration with LEAs

Understanding the IEP/IFSP and our roles

- Developing and Implementing IEP/IFSP
- Identifying our roles
- Goals and Objectives of IEP/IFSP

The IEP/IFSP

- Translating the IEP/IFSP to the Classroom
- Monitoring the ongoing process
- Formulating strategies
- Developmentally appropriate practices

Collaborating Effectively

- With Parents
- With Related Service providers
- With Community Representatives
- Identifying Service Providers
- Service Providers Roles

Empowering Parents as Advocates

The Family is the Key

Involvement from the Start

Collaborating with the Family is ongoing

Defining roles in classroom implementation

Parents in the Program development

Translating to home and school activities

Adapting to the environment

Accountability by reporting

Our roles

Reviewing and modifying services

Uniform method of documenting

Working with specialist

Helping parents develop skills to advocate