



Welcome to



Illinois
Even Start
FAMILY LITERACY

Illinois State Board of Education



How do I find the legal requirements and tools?

Even Start Law (Title I, Part B, Subpart 3, ESEA) -
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg6.html>

Regulations

- ◆ EDGAR (Parts 74, 76, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, 99)
– <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.html>
- ◆ OMB Cost Principles -
http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/grants/grants_circulars.html
Circular A-87 (LEAs, Indian tribes)
Circular A-122 (Non-profits)
Circular A-21 (Institutions of Higher Education)

Non-Regulatory Guidance

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/evenstartguidance02.doc>



How many Even Start programs are there?

- ◆ **FY 2009**
Illinois - \$2.4 million, 17 programs
Nationwide - \$66 million
- ◆ **FY 2008**
Illinois - \$3.4 million, 33 programs, 951 families
Nationwide - \$82 million
- ◆ **FY 2007**
Illinois - \$3.8 million, 44 programs, 1292 families
Nationwide - \$99 million, 688 programs, 23,763 families
- ◆ **FY 2006**
Illinois - \$8.4 million, 53 programs, 2461 families
Nationwide - \$225 million, 1022 programs, 38,151 families



What is the purpose of Even Start?

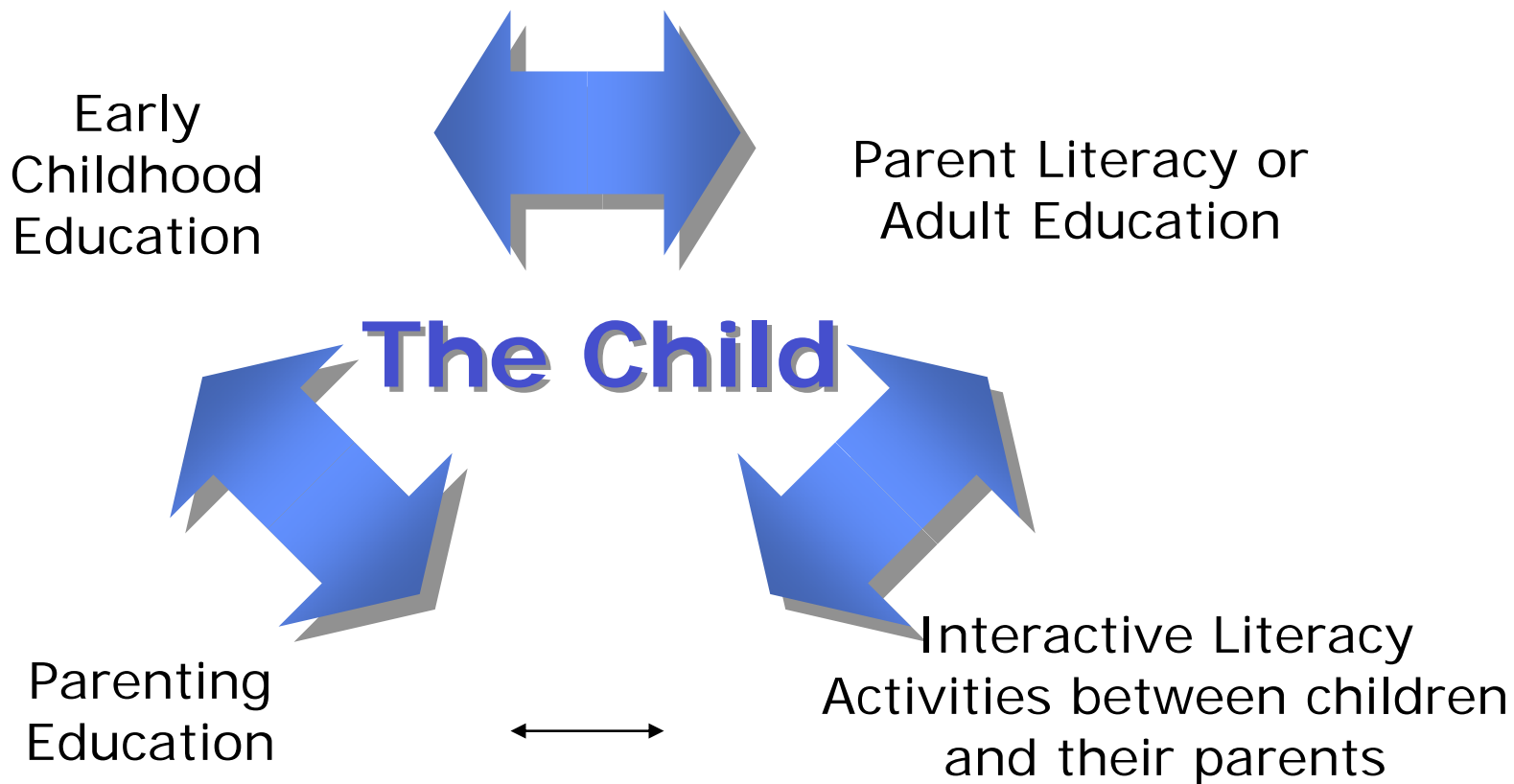
To help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving the educational opportunities of the Nation's low-income families by integrating four instructional components into a unified family literacy program

(Section 1231, ESEA)



What are the four instructional components in a family literacy program?

Four core instructional components





What are the goals of Even Start?

- ◆ Help parents improve their literacy and basic educational skills
- ◆ Help parents become full partners in educating their children
- ◆ Assist children in reaching their full potential as learners

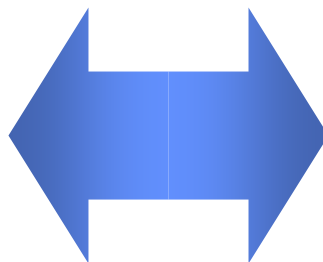


Who is an eligible entity?

A Partnership composed of



A Local Educational Agency – School District, Regional Office of Education, or Charter School



A Non- Profit Community-Based Organization, Public Agency, or Institute of Higher Education

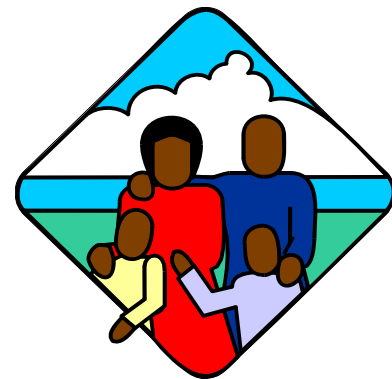
(Section 1232(e)(1), ESEA)



What are “family literacy services”?

The following services, integrated and of sufficient intensity and duration to make sustainable changes in a family:

- ◆ **Age-appropriate education for children**
- ◆ **Training for parents on how to be their child’s first teacher**
- ◆ **Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children**
- ◆ **Parent literacy training**



(Section 9101(20), ESEA)



What is considered sufficient intensity of services?

USDE Recommendations Regarding Intensity of Services

- ◆ Early Childhood Education – (0-3)
60 hours a month
- ◆ Early Childhood Education – (3-5)
65 hours a month
- ◆ Adult Education – 60 hours a month
- ◆ Parenting Education and Interactive Literacy Activities – 20 hours a month



What is the focus of Even Start under NCLB?

Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Even Start focuses on:

- Accountability for results
- Early reading and reading
- Strategies and approaches based on scientific research
- Highly qualified personnel



What is accountability for results?

Adult Outcomes

- ◆ Achievement in reading, writing, language acquisition, problem solving, and numeracy. (A-1 and A-2)
- ◆ Receipt of high school diploma or GED. (A-3)
- ◆ Entry into post-secondary education, job retraining or employment or career advancement. (A-3)

(Section 1240, ESEA)

Child Outcomes

- ◆ Improvement in ability to read on grade level or reading readiness. (C-1, C-2, C-3)
- ◆ School attendance. (C-4, C-5, C-6)
- ◆ Grade retention and promotion. (C-7)

Other State Indicators

Family Outcomes

- ◆ Transitional Activities (F-1)
- ◆ Interactive Parent-Child Behaviors (F-2)
- ◆ Family & Community Related Goals (F-3)



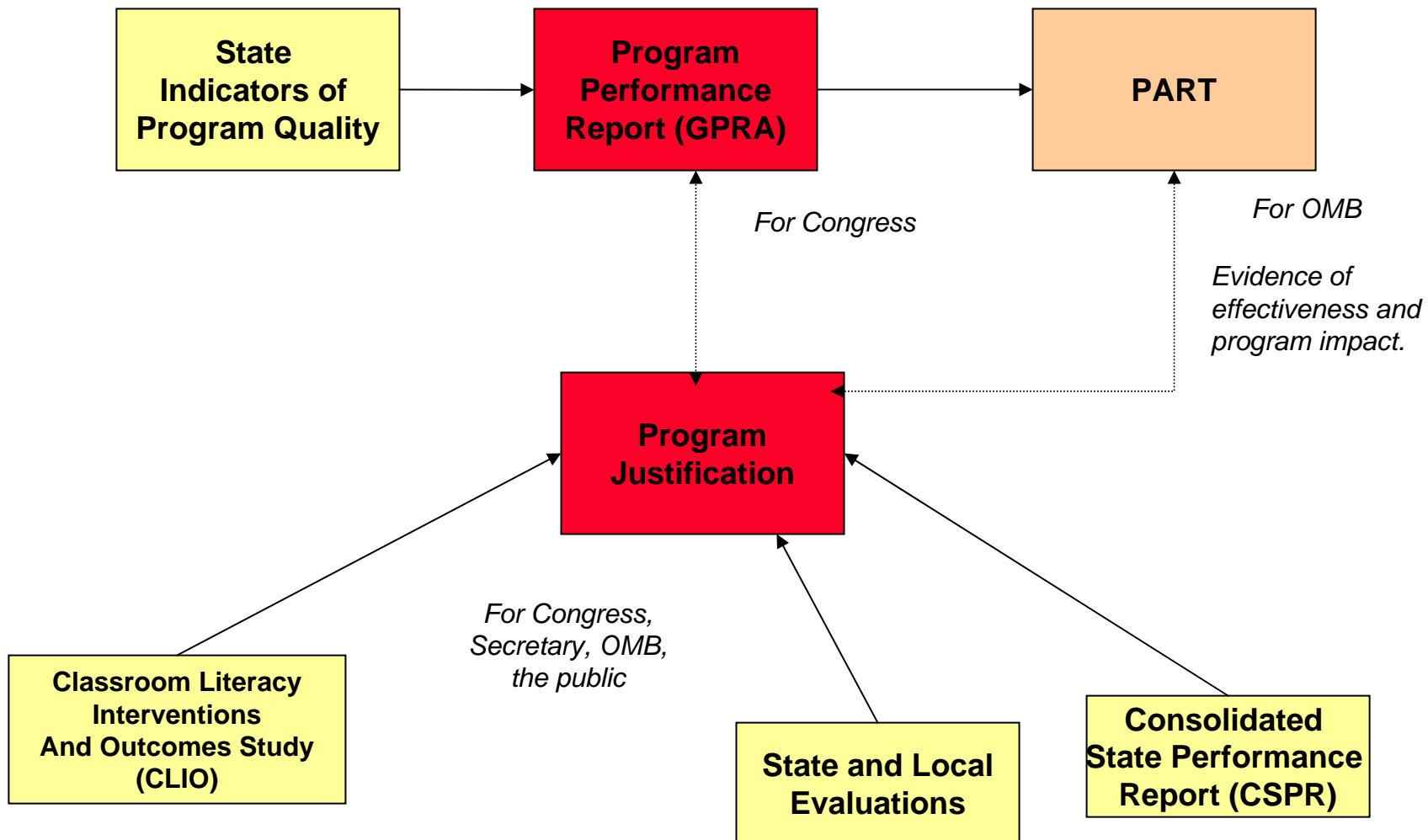
What is required for federal reporting?

GPRA Indicators

- ◆ **Measure 1.1:** The percentage of Even Start adults who achieve significant learning gains on measures of reading/English language acquisition, as measured by the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) and the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE). *A1 and A2*
- ◆ **Measure 1.2:** The percentage of Even Start adults with a high school completion goal who earn a high school diploma. *A3*
- ◆ **Measure 1.3:** The percentage of Even Start adults with a goal of General Equivalency Diploma (GED) attainment who earn a GED. *A3*
- ◆ **Measure 1.4:** The percentage of Even Start children who are entering kindergarten and who are achieving significant gains on receptive language on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test-III (PPVT - III).
- ◆ **Measure 1.5:** The number of letters Even Start children can identify, as measured by the PALS Pre-K Uppercase Letter Naming Subtask.



What is the purpose for all of this reporting?





How do we focus on early reading and reading?

- ◆ Provide experiences for infants and toddlers that will impact emergent literacy skills and give them the basis for reading success.
- ◆ Teach research-based early reading skills for preschool age children, to ensure that those children enter school ready to learn to read.
- ◆ Provide supplemental research-based instruction for school-age children to ensure that those children succeed in school.
- ◆ Use research-based strategies and instructional practices in teaching adults to read.

(Section 1235(4), 1235(10) and 1235(12), ESEA)



What does it mean to use strategies and approaches based on scientific research?

- ◆ **Scientifically Based Reading Research (SBRR)**
Research that applies rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain valid knowledge relevant to reading development, reading instruction, and reading difficulties.
(Section 1208, ESEA)
- ◆ **Evidence-Based Reading Instruction** means that a particular program or collection of instructional practices has a tested and proven record of success. That is, there is reliable, trustworthy, and valid evidence to suggest that when the program or the practices are used with a particular group of learners, the learners can be expected to make adequate gains in reading achievement.
(International Reading Association, 2002)



What does SBRR indicate for children?

National Reading Panel Report (2000)

Identified five critical areas for reading instruction:

- ◆ **Phonemic Awareness:** The ability to hear and manipulate the sounds within words.
- ◆ **Phonics:** The ability to relate letters and letter combinations with the sounds they make.
- ◆ **Fluency:** The ability to read text accurately, at an appropriate rate of speed, and with proper expression.
- ◆ **Vocabulary:** The ability to understand a large and growing body of words.
- ◆ **Comprehension:** the ability to use strategies independently to enhance understanding of text.



What does SBRR indicate for adults?

Research-Based Principles for Adult Basic Education Reading Instruction, 2002

Addresses four components for reading instruction

- ◆ Alphabetics
 - *Phonemic Awareness*
 - *Word Analysis*
- ◆ Fluency
- ◆ Vocabulary
- ◆ Comprehension



What are the qualifications for Even Start staff?

For personnel employed in part or whole with Even Start funds –

- ◆ Instructional personnel: associate's, bachelor's or graduate degree in a field related to early childhood education, elementary school or secondary school education, or adult education; and meet State qualifications.
- ◆ Paraprofessionals: secondary school diploma or GED.
- ◆ Administrator: training in the operation of a family literacy program.

(Section 1235(5), ESEA)



What families may participate?

Families most-in-need of Even Start services, with -

- ◆ A parent or parents
 - *Eligible for services under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act*
 - *Attending secondary school*
 - *OR within compulsory school attendance age, and*
- ◆ The child or children, from birth through age seven, of any individual described above.
- ◆ Other participants:
 - *An older child if Part A, Title I contributes.*
 - *Other family members, as appropriate.*

(Section 1236)



How do we target most in need?

FY 2008 At-Risk Factors of the 951 Families Served

- ◆ 85% of these families are at or below the Federal Poverty level
- ◆ 73% of the parents are unemployed
- ◆ 75% of the parents do not have a high school diploma or a GED
- ◆ 45% of the parents have not gone beyond the 9th grade
- ◆ 49% of the adults speak a language other than English as the primary language in the home
- ◆ 45% of these families speak Spanish as the primary language in the home.



What services must my project provide?

- ◆ **Identification and Recruitment of Families Most in Need**
- ◆ **Screening and Preparation of Participants**
- ◆ **Flexible Scheduling and Support Services**
- ◆ **High-Quality, Intensive Instructional Programs**
- ◆ **Staff Qualifications**
- ◆ **Staff Training**

(Section 1235(1-6))

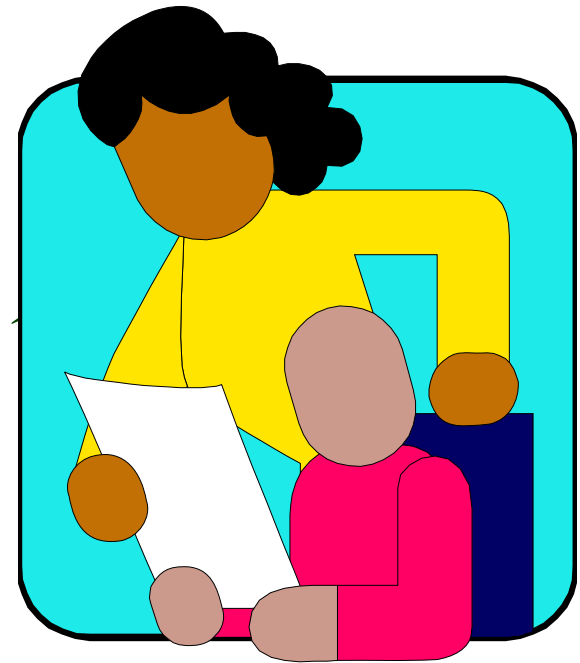




What services must my project provide?

- ◆ **Integrated, Home-Based Instructional Services**
- ◆ **Year-Round Services (instructional and enrichment)**
- ◆ **Coordination with Other Relevant Programs**
- ◆ **Instructional Programs Based on Scientifically Based Reading Research**
- ◆ **Attendance and Retention**

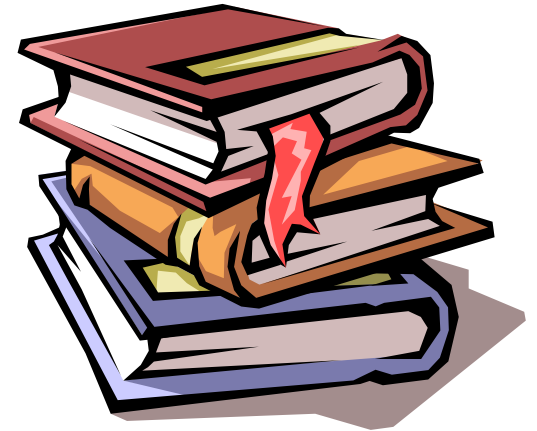
(Section 1235(7-11))





What services must my project provide?

- ◆ **Reading Readiness Activities**
- ◆ **Continuity of Family Literacy Services**
- ◆ **Services to Families Most in Need**
- ◆ **Independent Local Project Evaluation for Program Improvement**



(Section 1235(12-14))



What is my project's cost share?

Federal funds decrease and local projects' matching resources increase, as projects mature.

- ◆ Up to 90% Federal share -- Year 1
- ◆ Up to 80% Federal share -- Year 2
- ◆ Up to 70% Federal share -- Year 3
- ◆ Up to 60% Federal share -- Year 4
- ◆ Up to 50% Federal share -- Years 5-8
- ◆ Up to 35% Federal share -- Year 9, and any subsequent year

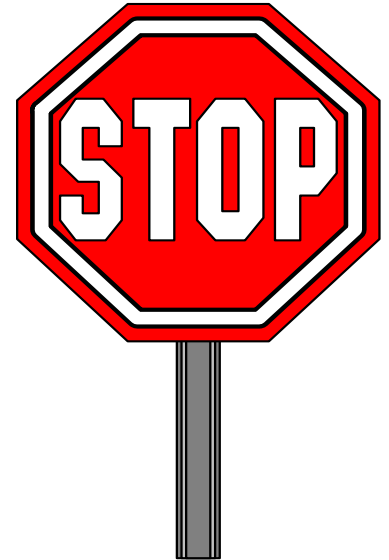
(Section 1234(b), ESEA)



For what may I use Even Start funds?

Reasonable and necessary costs related to project services and activities, BUT

- ◆ No indirect costs
- ◆ No use of funds for construction





Where can I go for assistance?

- ◆ ISBE Early Childhood Division

Cindy Zumwalt, 217/524-4835

czumwalt@isbe.net

- ◆ ISBE Even Start webpage -

http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/html/even_start_family_literacy.htm

- ◆ FLAIR webpage -

http://thecenterweb.org/adult/flair_main.htm



What are your questions?

