Referral for Special Education Evaluation

Development screenings for all enrolled participants that result in a score of "refer" will be processed for referral to the local education agency for formal evaluation.

- All ECSE-HMG referrals will be submitted to the local education agency responsible for implementing IDEA through the state Help Me Grow system.
- Referrals will be submitted as soon as possible after receiving the referral from the participant's educator.
- The program will support parents, guardians, and families during the evaluation process by providing information/handouts about the AEOA referral process, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) evaluation process, and contact information for available child advocacy agencies.
- Whenever possible, the Disability and Mental Health Manager will attend meetings conducted by the local education agency throughout the evaluation process to support and advocate for the participant and their family.
- Formal evaluations that result in a child not eligible for early intervention or special education services will be reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Team to determine child and family supports that may be needed to ensure the participants development and school readiness.
- Where a need or service is identified for participants not eligible for special education services, the program may support expenses through designated program funds after all other funding options have been exhausted.

This policy complies with 1302.33 (3-5)

Approved by Policy Council on: 10/07/2020

Additional References: ECSE-HMG Referrals – Internal Guidance and Process