

Conversation with the Division: FAQs



Healthy Start Webinar: Conversations with the Division of Healthy Start & Perinatal Services

On February 2, 2017, HRSA staff in the Division of Healthy Staff and Perinatal Services facilitated a webinar focused on providing updates, including a program update, Healthy Start Monitoring and Evaluation Database (HSMED), National Evaluation, the EPIC Center and Healthy Start CoIN efforts.

This FAQ summarizes questions raised during the Division call which were not answered. Questions that were answered during the call are not summarized below but can be heard by listening to the recording or viewing the transcript available at: [the EPIC Center's Training Calendar](#).

Question: How do we account for participants [in our monthly reports] who were served between the end of the last reporting period and the start of the Screening Tools? (November 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016)?

Response: For clients who were active during the period of 11/1/16 - 12/31/16, and who are no longer served in 2017 will not need to be screened with the tools. Those that continue to be served need to be screened. There is no need to screen retroactively but as the clients are continuing to be seen, they will need to complete the appropriate tool for the phase they are currently in at that time.

Question: Can you clarify the definition of a participant? On some documents it is that you had one touch/visit with a participant, but at other times we talk about enrollment as being complete when the demographic tool, pregnancy history tool and perinatal tool is complete. Can a participant be counted if we do not have all tools completed?

Response: A participant is defined as a woman of child bearing age and/or her child(ren) up to the age of two who is enrolled in the Healthy Start program and has at least one visit during the reporting year. To be enrolled, it is expected that the individual will have completed the screening process to include the demographic, pregnancy history tool and relevant perinatal tool(s).

Question: Is the HSMED schema just for grantees that are not using the online data entry tool?

Response: The HSMED schema is a tool for all grantees to use no matter what data entry tool they are using. The purpose of the schema is to ensure that their XML (Extensive Markup Language) file format for monthly upload into the HSMED system is in compliance with the HRSA/MCHB required reporting. For more info on this topic and XML schema implementation guides, check out the [monitoring data and evaluation page on the EPIC website](#).

Question: Are the new Performance Measures referenced in the presentation the same as the HS Benchmarks that were sent this spring?

Response: Yes, they are the same.

Question: Will the screening tools continue into the next grant cycle (2019 +)?

Response: Yes. We would like input from current Healthy Start grantees to inform the next grant cycle. Please lookout for opportunities to share your ideas at regional meetings and during other upcoming grantee events.