

# Strong Beginnings

## QuickStart Guide Section 5: Recruitment and Enrollment

**ISDs are the grantees of Strong Beginnings and may run classrooms themselves or may choose to contract with subrecipients.**

- Group/family child care homes may be a location partner for Strong Beginnings with approval of CCRESA.
- Children may not be enrolled in Strong Beginnings across ISD boundaries.

**Strong Beginnings and Head Start collaborate in enrollment decisions when a child is Head Start eligible. A formal protocol is in place.**

- Children who are eligible for Head Start and attend Strong Beginnings after the referral process has been completed may attend GSRP without completing a second referral process.

**Recruitment, Enrollment and Prioritization policies are mostly the same.**

- During the enrollment process, families will be screened for basic needs. If families have unmet needs in areas such as food or housing the Family Liaison will immediately support the family in finding assistance for these needs even if the child is not yet, or will not be, admitted to the program.
- ISDs will not be granted approval for admitting more than 10% over income children.
- A waiting list must be carefully maintained as children from this list will serve as the control group for the MSU Research Team.
- Strong Beginnings eligible and non-eligible children may not be combined in the same classroom. No braiding is allowed of Strong Beginnings and tuition paying children or Strong Beginnings and Special Education funded children.
- Strong Beginnings and Head Start funding cannot be used to fund children in a blended classroom.
- Only children with IEPs requiring ECSE services (and not placement in an ECSE classroom) are eligible for priority placement in Strong Beginnings' classrooms. No more than 10% of children may have IEPs. Children may not be enrolled in part-day Strong Beginnings classrooms and part-day ECSE classrooms.