

JOIN US – REGISTER NOW

# WINDOW | *of* | OPPORTUNITY | *the first 1300 days* |

REGION IV HEAD START ASSOCIATION  
2020 *Virtual* EARLY HEAD START INSTITUTE  
SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 1, 2020



## JOIN US VIRTUALLY FOR 2020 EHSI

The Region IV Head Start Association's (RIVHSA) Early Head Start Institute is a prime opportunity for both emerging and seasoned Early Head Start (EHS) leaders to expand their understanding and application of best practices, research findings, policy trends, and quality initiatives to achieve a high standard of excellence today and tomorrow. The conference experience is a unique blend of speaker expertise, learning tracks, and presentation formats to encourage breakthrough thinking and collaborative problem-solving. This year, hundreds of emerging and seasoned EHS professionals, parents and partners from our region and across the country will convene to:

- **Explore extraordinary opportunities** with engaging speakers and leading thought leaders at our daily general sessions.
- **Stay on the cutting edge** of research and professional practice with learning tracks that promote best practice, innovation, and partnership opportunities to expand quality and capacity.
- **Connect with experts, corporate sponsors, and attendees** using virtual engagement activities that allow you to share and discover strategies to increase effectiveness.

### **REGISTER NOW**

MEMBER: \$290/person | NON-MEMBER: \$345/person

A purchased registration includes 3-day event programming, on-demand viewing post-event, and CEUs for concurrent sessions.

**VISIT [WWW.RIVHSA.ORG](http://WWW.RIVHSA.ORG) REGULARLY FOR UPDATES**

### ABOUT RIVHSA

The Region IV Head Start Association (RIVHSA), founded in 1986, is a private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to improving the quality of early care and learning for Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) children and their families in our 8 affiliate states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. RIVHSA represents more than 150,000 children, 40,000 staff, and 400 member programs. It is our mission to provide valuable professional development opportunities, cultivate meaningful partnerships, and advocate for significant policies and investments to increase program quality.

### OUR MISSION

For 30 years, RIVHSA has remained committed to its mission of supporting the regional Head Start community through leadership, advocacy, partnership, and professional development to promote their delivery of high-quality services to enrolled children and families. We value advocacy through collective action, partnerships that expand capabilities and resources, as well as professional development that equips and empowers professionals, parents and partners to meet present and future opportunities.

- **ADVOCACY:** RIVHSA is committed to telling your collective story in a compelling manner to achieve results at the federal level. We also support our affiliates affecting change at the state level, and also work closely with federal offices in our region to address your needs.
- **PARTNERSHIP:** RIVHSA actively seeks innovative partnership opportunities with private, public, and government sector entities. Partnerships amplify our mutual interests and success while also increasing awareness of what we do best - prepare today's students for tomorrow.
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** RIVHSA offers training opportunities that address key issues, initiatives, and best practices as well as support federal regulations and policies. These quality learning experiences also strengthen program administration, staff development as well as parent and community involvement.

### BECOME A MEMBER TODAY | MEMBERSHIP YEAR: OCTOBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 30

When you join RIVHSA, you're not only making a commitment to strengthen the region's HS/EHS programs but you're also joining a community of professionals, parents and partners dedicated to making a difference. Our member programs enjoy a full complement of benefits that make a difference in leveraging your collective voice, supporting professional development, and increasing organizational capacity. Not a member? Renew or join today to receive the discounted member registration rate.

## ABOUT THE EVENT | 2020 EHSI

The first 1,300 days of life – from conception to age three – open a critical window of opportunity. During this period, children’s brains can form 1,000 neural connections every second – a once in a lifetime pace never matched again – and these connections are the building blocks of every child’s future. RIVHSA’s Early Head Start Institute brings together emerging and seasoned professionals, parents and partners to explore research and best practices that focus on this critical period to develop a child’s full potential and shape key academic, social, and cognitive skills that determine a child’s success in school and in life.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

RIVHSA’s Early Head Start Institute is designed for all early childhood professionals, parents, partners as well as any stakeholder committed to fulfilling the Early Head Start mission. The target audience includes but is not limited to:

- Board Members
- Policy Council Members
- Executive Director
- Fiscal Officer
- Early Head Start Director
- EHS-Child Care Partners
- Content Area Managers
- Center-Based Team
- Home-Based Team
- Parents and Families
- Community Partners

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants will not only will deepen their knowledge base but also expand their awareness of key frameworks, quality initiatives and best practices in the areas of early care and development as well as family engagement.

- **BOARD & POLICY MEMBERS:** EHS organizations recognize the importance of established and well-functioning governance bodies that share the responsibility for the delivery of high-quality services to children and families. Participants will expand their understanding of program governance as well as related elements of program design and management.
- **ADMINISTRATORS & MANAGERS:** EHS organizations are experiencing great opportunities for reinvention or growth but many are also vulnerable to considerable risk. The health of the organization depends on its ability to effectively balance its mission, capital structure, and organizational capacity. Participants will expand their understanding and application of management principles, quality initiatives and best practices.
- **CENTER-BASED & HOME-BASED TEAMS:** From social-emotional and cognitive skills to physical well-being and parent involvement, programs support and nurture all areas of a young child’s development and learning through coordinated and connected strategies. Participants will expand their understanding and application of prevention and intervention strategies, best practices and quality initiatives.
- **PARENTS & FAMILIES:** Parents are young children’s first and most important teachers, and their socialization is most influenced by their family. Programs engage parents and families as equal partners to support children's ongoing development and learning. Participants will explore strategies and resources to strengthen the connection between family engagement, healthy development, and school readiness.

## EVENT AGENDA

*This schedule is tentative and subject to change. The event time zone is Eastern Standard Time (EST).*

Tuesday, September 29	Wednesday, September 30	Thursday, October 1
10:35 am - 10:50 am BIG Ideas! Zone	10:35 am - 10:50 am BIG Ideas! Zone	10:35 am - 10:50 am BIG Ideas! Zone
11:00 am - 12:00 pm Opening Session	11:00 am - 12:00 pm Policy & Issue Forum	11:00 am - 12:00 pm Research to Practice
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm BIG Ideas! Zone	1:15 pm - 1:30 pm BIG Ideas! Zone	1:00 pm - 1:45 pm Concurrent Sessions
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Concurrent Sessions	2:00 pm - 2:45 pm Concurrent Sessions
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm BIG Ideas! Zone	2:45 pm - 3:00 pm BIG Ideas! Zone	3:00 pm - 3:15 pm BIG Ideas! Zone
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm Concurrent Sessions	3:15 pm - 4:00 pm Concurrent Sessions	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Closing Session

## LEARNING TRACKS

These tracks concentrate on key elements of the Early Head Start operations and experience. Individual sessions will be released as confirmed. Review our website periodically for updates.

- **EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT**: Children have a variety of needs and strengths. Therefore, it is important to stimulate learning across all domains of development and ensure that all efforts are coordinated and connected. This track focuses on best practices, effective tools, as well as topics ranging from engaging interactions to individualization and assessment to parent involvement to foster early learning, development, and school readiness.
- **HEALTH & WELL-BEING**: Children need to be healthy in order to learn. Head Start's commitment to wellness embraces a comprehensive vision of health which promotes children's health, prevent disease and ensure children are on track developmentally. This track focuses on best practices, effective tools, and topics ranging from environmental health and safety to oral health and mental health to nutrition.
- **PARENTING & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**: Families are young children's first and most important teachers. Programs work with families as equal partners to support children's ongoing development and learning. This work can help families achieve positive outcomes for themselves and their children. This track focuses on the link between family engagement, healthy development, and school readiness. Find strategies and additional resources to support staff and programs in boosting family engagement and parenting practices.
- **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE**: Effective management systems are critical to successfully navigating program challenges and opportunities, while sound program governance provides the necessary linkage, oversight, and direction. This track examines ways to protect and grow the assets of an organization, develop effective frameworks and processes, and accomplish the mission with available resources. In addition, sessions in this track examine shared governance including the responsibilities for overseeing program services.

## REGISTRATION & PAYMENT GUIDELINES

*A purchased registration includes 3-day event programming, on-demand viewing post-event, and CEUs for concurrent sessions.*

### MEMBERSHIP STATUS & REGISTRATION RATES

RIVHSA members are eligible for discounted registration rates. To receive a member discount, you must hold a 2019-20 RIVHSA membership at the time of registration. (Our membership year runs from October 1 through September 30 of each calendar year.) To avoid paying non-member registration rates, renew or join the before you register. Membership status will be verified by RIVHSA staff, who will contact registrants in cases of lapsed membership to proceed with reactivation or transition registration to the non-member rate.

- MEMBER: \$290/person
- NON-MEMBER: \$345/person

### REGISTER ONLINE BY CREDIT CARD

RIVHSA is enhancing its online registration solutions to support increased credit card transactions. Credit cards are our preferred method of payment as they greatly facilitate the confirmation of registration and also reduces transactional contact for RIVHSA staff especially during the COVID 19 outbreak. Registrations are accepted on a full-payment and first-come, first-served basis only for virtual events. You will receive an email confirmation within two business days after receipt of registration payment.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT OPTIONS

It's an unconventional moment in time, and our support for you is unconditional as we transition to virtual events. If your agency is unable to remit payment online by credit card, there are two alternative payment options:

- **AGENCY CHECK:** If your agency does not possess a credit card, you may contact RIVHSA to arrange payment by agency check. RIVHSA does not accept personal checks. Email your inquiry to RIVHSA using the instructions below:

**Please contact Frances Starr (Executive Assistant) at [fstarr@rivhsa.org](mailto:fstarr@rivhsa.org), using the following subject line: “[INSERT AGENCY NAME] to register for 2020 EHSI with agency check”.** Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with registration instructions for this payment option. In order to efficiently track this process, we ask that all registration related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. This process will enable you and RIVHSA staff to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

- **ACCOUNT CREDIT:** If your agency would like to apply an existing account credit, you may contact RIVHSA to arrange payment by account credit. Credits must be used by 9/30/20 or be forfeited. Credits may only be used to purchase RIVHSA training, membership, or products in the fiscal year credited. *There are no exceptions.* Email your inquiry to RIVHSA using the instructions below:

**Please contact Frances Starr (Executive Assistant) at [fstarr@rivhsa.org](mailto:fstarr@rivhsa.org), using the following subject line: “[INSERT AGENCY NAME] to register for 2020 EHSI with account credit”.** Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with registration instructions for this payment option. In order to efficiently track this process, we ask that all registration related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. This process will enable you and RIVHSA staff to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

## REGISTRATION & PAYMENT GUIDELINES

*A purchased registration includes 3-day event programming, on-demand viewing post-event, and CEUs for concurrent sessions.*

### SUBSTITUTIONS & CANCELLATIONS

- **SUBSTITUTION:** Registration fees are non-refundable. Substitutions are permitted until September 24. After September 24, we are unable to process substitutions. Email your substitution request to RIVHSA using the instructions below:

**Please contact Frances Starr (Executive Assistant) at [fstarr@rivhsa.org](mailto:fstarr@rivhsa.org), using the following subject line: “[INSERT AGENCY NAME] substitution for 2020 EHSI”.** Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with next steps. In order to efficiently track this process, we ask that all substitution related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. This process will enable you and RIVHSA staff to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

- **CANCELLATION:** Registration fees are non-refundable. Unable to make a substitution? Account credit requests are permitted until September 24. After September 24, account credit requests will not be accepted. Credits must be used by 9/30/20 or be forfeited. Credits may only be used to purchase RIVHSA training, membership, or products in the fiscal year credited. *There are no exceptions.* Email your account credit request to RIVHSA using the instructions below:

**Please contact Frances Starr (Executive Assistant) at [fstarr@rivhsa.org](mailto:fstarr@rivhsa.org), using the following subject line: “[INSERT AGENCY NAME] cancellation for 2020 EHSI”.** Once your inquiry email is received, we will reply with next steps. In order to efficiently track this process, we ask that all cancellation related inquiries be isolated to the initial email conversation thread. Therefore, you and RIVHSA staff will always be able to easily refer to specific communications within the single thread.

**Other registration questions? Contact Frances Starr (Executive Assistant) at [fstarr@rivhsa.org](mailto:fstarr@rivhsa.org)**