



Early Childhood Mental Health Support Specialist

State Classification: [Education Specialist – 30122](#)

Job Description:

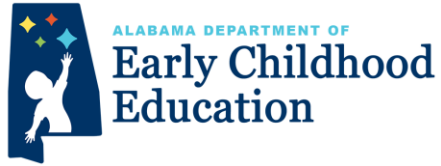
This position is located in the south-central part of the state, including the area around Montgomery and central Alabama, and will require extensive travel within the region. Mental Health Support Specialist will be supporting childcare centers and family childcare programs to ensure services are delivered as listed under the Head Start Performance Standards Sub Part D.

Key Responsibilities:

- Possess a deep understanding of Head Start Performance Standards, experience with ChildPlus systems, a keen attention to detail, and a collaborative approach to helping programs meet expectations.
- Share information on child development, focusing on social-emotional development and mental health.
- Foster and maintain professional relationships with teachers, service providers, directors, and parents to ensure compliance with all aspects of Subpart D of the Head Start Performance Standards.
- Provide support and coordinate staff training on social-emotional and mental health topics needed by the program.
- Deliver written and verbal observations along with strengths-based feedback to classrooms annually.
- Conduct classroom observations annually or as needed. Meet with coaches and classroom teams to review these observations and develop and implement improvement plans.
- Provide guidance and demonstrate developmentally appropriate activities for children, along with offering effective ways to engage and support young children.
- Provide parent education and support by offering training sessions as needed. Also, meet with parents individually to discuss their child and family needs, and create or follow up on plans to address these needs.
- Conduct standardized screenings and assessments on a child's developmental, behavioral, or social-emotional needs as assigned or requested for consultation.
- Refer children and families to outside agencies and follow up as needed.

Qualifications:

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university in an approved subject matter or education specialty area.



- Five years of professional experience in teaching, education administration, or a related assignment including three years of professional experience in one of the specialty areas listed below.
- Experience in the mental health field is preferred.
- A certification or license in human services, or be willing to obtain the Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMH) certification.

To be eligible for hire, all qualified candidates must apply through the State Personnel Department and be listed on the state register. Visit personnel.alabama.gov to submit an application.

For more information about this position and how to apply, please contact Tameka Gilmore at tameka.gilmore@ece.alabama.gov.