Competency 1: Demonstrate knowledge of Head Start history and school readiness.

Competency 2: Demonstrate knowledge of the Head Start Program Performance Standards.

Competency 3: Implement eligibility, recruitment, selection and enrollment processes that target those most in need of Head Start services and promote regular attendance.

Competency 4: Implement an effective family partnership process.

Competency 5: Demonstrate knowledge of and empower families to access community services and resources to support their interests and needs.

Competency 6: Support family engagement in parent-child relationships, families as educators, and transition.

Competency 7: Support family well-being in nutrition, mental health, financial stability and other areas.

Competency 8: Demonstrate effective and culturally responsive communication and practices.

Competency 9: Demonstrate knowledge of professionalism in the work environment.

Competency 10: Continue professional development in formal and informal activities.
The NHSA Family Services Credential: A Competency Based Program

The NHSA Family Services Credential Competencies cover 10 broad areas that outline the knowledge and skills that contribute to the successful provision of Head Start family services.

- **Competencies 1& 2** explore Head Start history, school readiness and the Performance Standards.

- **Competencies 3 & 4** examine ERSEA, the family partnership process and community services and resources.

- **Competencies 5-8** focus on family engagement in parent-child relationships, families as educators, family well-being, effective communication and culturally responsive practices.

- **Competencies 9 & 10** address professionalism in the work environment, including confidentiality and professional ethics, and professional development.

The Competencies are further outlined through the indicators, called Functions.

**Functions:**
Indicators within each Competency that further detail the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to fulfill the objectives of family services in Head Start.

**Activities:**
Provide the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate specific skills, abilities and understanding of the Competency. The Activities are numbered according to the Competency and Function with which they correspond.
FUNCTION C: Support father engagement opportunities.

**ACTIVITY C6-FA-A1**
1. What specific strategies and activities does your program have in place for fathers?
2. What is your role in these?
3. Attach a link to or copies of fliers, social media announcements, newsletters or other promotional materials of any activities to which this would be applicable.

**ACTIVITY C6-FA-A2**
1. Name three specific ways your program provides parents with opportunities to support their role as their child’s primary educator.
2. What is your role in these areas?
3. Attach a link to or copies of fliers, social media announcements, newsletters or other promotional materials of any activities to which this would be applicable.

FUNCTION B: Engages families as lifelong educators.

**ACTIVITY C6-FA-A3**
1. Read/view one resource from each category listed below or choose your own.
2. Check the box next to the two resources you read/viewed or cite your source.
3. Identify two messages that stand out to you as to why supporting parents as lifelong educators is important.
4. How can you apply these messages to your work with families?

**Messages—Why parents as their child’s educator is important.**

1. 
2. 

**ACTIVITY C6-FA-A1** means Competency 6-Function-Activity 1
### COMPETENCY 6

**Support family engagement in parent-child relationships, families as educators, and transition.**

**FUNCTION A: Promotes positive parent-child relationships.**

**ACTIVITY CE-FA-A1**

- Think about one child in your personal life that you clearly love or with whom you share a close connection. Maybe he or she is a birth child, grandchild, adopted child, foster child, niece or nephew, best friend’s child, or a neighbor’s child. Spend a little time thinking about the child and provide a response for each of the following based upon your individual experience.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.

**ACTIVITY CE-FA-A1-A1**

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.

**ACTIVITY CE-FA-A2**

1. Name three specific ways your program helps to support positive parent-child relationships.
2. What is your role in these areas?
3. Attach a link to or copies of fliers, social media announcements, newsletters or other promotional materials of any activities to which this would be applicable.