



ADVOCACY VS. LOBBYING LEGALLY WHAT CAN YOU DO?



ADVOCACY

What is it and can I do it

Advocacy is the act of engaging with government officials to educate and provide technical, factual, and non-partisan information about relevant issues.

Nonprofit organizations and Head Start grantee recipients are permitted to engage in advocacy with state and federal officials to educate them about Head Start and share information about programs in their communities

What it includes

This includes meeting with government officials, hosting government officials at your program, providing comments to government policy proposals, providing testimony to government officials, etc.

Attending Head Start Advocacy Day and having educational meetings with legislators is advocacy.

Can I use Federal Funds

Advocacy is generally permissible use of federal funds. Certain guidelines or limitations might apply to ensure compliance with funding rules.

LOBBYING



What is it and can I do it

Lobbying is the act of engaging with government officials with the intent to influence funding, support for, or opposition to a particular issues or piece of legislation or potential appointment.

Nonprofit organizations may engage in some lobbying so long as it is not a substantial part of its activities.

What it includes

This includes contacting, or urging others to contact, legislators for the purpose of proposing, supporting, or opposing legislation. This does not include educational meetings or preparing and distributing educational materials.

Can I use Federal Funds

No. Lobbying is not a permissible use of federal funds.

FHSA'S ROLE

The Florida Head Start Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and not a federal grantee.

This distinction allows us to engage in both advocacy and lobbying activities, provided that lobbying does not constitute a substantial part of our efforts.