

Overview

This document provides service delivery fidelity requirements for the HealthySteps model. Fidelity is the degree to which an evidence-based model is implemented as intended and is essential to realize the full benefits of the model. The HealthySteps service delivery fidelity requirements are aligned with the [HealthySteps Core Components](#). The National Office first introduced fidelity requirements to all sites in 2018, and this 2022 update reflects learnings from our network and is an important part of our collective continuous quality improvement effort. New sites are expected to achieve the **HealthySteps Fidelity Requirements** within 3 years of training.

Service Delivery Fidelity Requirements

These 12 requirements are tied to the 8 Core Components of the HealthySteps (HS) model. Fulfillment of these requirements is assessed through HealthySteps Annual Site Reporting (ASR) each year.

Core Components & Fidelity Indicators	Fidelity Status	
1. Child Developmental, Social-Emotional & Behavioral Screening	Meets	Exceeds
% of children age 0–3 who receive at least one developmental screening each year	50%	90%
% of children age 0–3 who receive at least one social-emotional/behavioral screening each year	50%	75%
% of children screened for autism at least once by their 24-month visit	50%	90%
2. Screening for Family Needs	Meets	Exceeds
% of children age 0–3 whose mothers ¹ were screened at least once for maternal depression by their child’s 6-month visit	50%	90%
% of children age 0–3 who have at least one family member screened for at least one of the following key family needs each year:	50%	75%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Food insecurity ➤ Housing instability or homelessness ➤ Utility needs ➤ Transportation needs ➤ Interpersonal safety (intimate partner violence, interpersonal violence, community violence, etc.) ➤ Substance misuse (alcohol and other drugs) ➤ Tobacco use 		

¹ “Mother” refers to any female caregiver. The HealthySteps National Office recognizes that depression may be a concern for other caregivers, including fathers, and is working to develop guidance on how to address this.

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Core Components & Fidelity Indicators	Fidelity Status	
3. Family Support Line	Meets	Exceeds
The HS Specialist (or other designated practice staff) is able to respond to Family Support Line inquiries from families with children age 0–3 within the timeframe specified by institutional guidelines (or within 3 business days if no guidelines exist) at least 50% of the time (based on estimate)	Able to follow response process at least 50% of the time (based on estimate)	Able to follow response process at least 50% of the time (based on time-limited data collection)
4. Child Development & Behavior Consults	Meets	Exceeds
% of children age 0-3 identified as needing Tier 2 services who received a Consult with the HS Specialist within 3 months of the identification of need	50%	75%
5. Ongoing, Preventive Team-Based Well-Child Visits	Meets	Exceeds
% of children age 0-3 receiving Tier 3 services who received at least two ongoing, preventive Team-Based Well-Child Visits including a HealthySteps Specialist during the year	50%	90%
6. Care Coordination & Systems Navigation	Meets	Exceeds
% of children age 0–3 receiving Tier 3 services who were referred to early intervention services for which a referral status was updated within 45 days of referral	50%	75%
% of mothers ¹ with children age 0-3 receiving Tier 3 services who were referred to maternal depression services for which a referral status was updated within 45 days of referral	50%	75%
7. Positive Parenting Guidance & Information	Meets	Exceeds
During ongoing, preventive Team-Based Well-Child Visits, the HS Specialist provides evidence-based positive parenting guidance and information to Tier 3 families	Provided to Tier 3 families at least 50% of the time (based on estimate)	Provided to Tier 3 families at least 50% of the time (based on time-limited data collection)
8. Early Learning Resources	Meets	Exceeds
During ongoing, preventive Team-Based Well-Child Visits, the HS Specialist provides evidence-based early learning resources to Tier 3 families	Provided to Tier 3 families at least 50% of the time (based on estimate)	Provided to Tier 3 families at least 50% of the time (based on time-limited data collection)