Early Head Start Option

(For applicants to qualify for work in Early Head Start)

The following requirements are for **Early Head Start** only for the infant and toddler credential endorsement. Early childhood professionals who **qualify for** or **hold** (a) a valid NH Early Childhood Teacher level 3 credential, **and** (b) the infant and toddler credential endorsement may seek an **Early Head Start Option**. The Early Head Start Option is required of professionals to qualify for work in Early Head Start.

Candidates for all three credentials/endorsements (NH Early Childhood Teacher level 3 credential, infant and toddler credential endorsement and Early Head Start Option) may submit these applications at the same time. Candidates for the infant and toddler credential and the Early Head Start Option may also submit these applications at the same time.

The following verification must be submitted for the Early Head Start Option:

☐ Documentation of a valid NH Early Childhood Teacher level 3 credential (*unless applying for this credential at the same time as the Early Head Start Option*)

☐ Documentation of the infant and toddler credential endorsement (*unless applying for this endorsement at the same time as the Early Head Start Option*)

☐ Verification* of completion of a resource binder;

☐ Verification* of completion of a parent opinion survey;

☐ Verification* of at least 3.5 hours of observation of the applicant in an infant and/or toddler setting was completed; and

☐ Verification* of completion of an additional 120 hours of professional development, which may be met through participation in coursework and/or a wide variety of training available in the field, including inservice. All formal education hours must be under the auspices of an institution of higher education, agency or organization with expertise in early childhood teacher preparation. The education could be for college credit or for no credit.

*Verification may be a signed letter or direct email from a college faculty member or a credentialed Early Childhood Master Professional – holding a Workshop Trainer, Individual Mentor, Faculty, or Program Consultant endorsement, who has:

- Reviewed the documents and verified that the assignments were completed; and
- Directly observed the applicant working in an infant and/or toddler setting.