



HEAD START

Regional T/TA Network

# A Systems Approach to School Readiness





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# Anticipated Outcomes

- Describe relationship between school readiness and program goals
- Write program goals that support school readiness goals in each domain
- Articulate how Head Start management systems support school readiness goals



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ECLKC: <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov>

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the HEAD START ECLKC website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/>. The website's navigation bar includes the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and Administration for Children & Families logos, along with links for Contact Us (1-866-763-6481) and Español. The main header features the HEAD START ECLKC logo and navigation links for About, Topics, and Policy & Regulations. The central banner image shows three young children engaged in an activity, with the text "Getting Young Children and Their Families Ready for School and Ready for Life" overlaid. Below the banner is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search this Website" and a "Search" button. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock indicating 11:36 AM on 8/7/2017.



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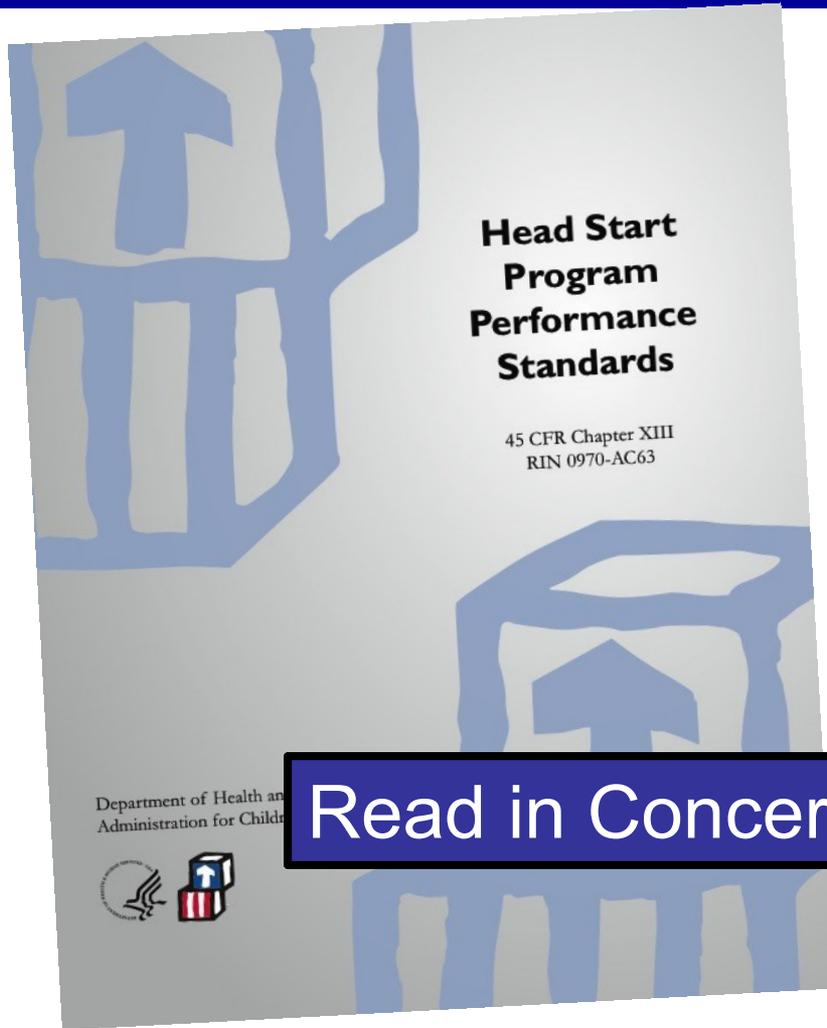
Head Start Management Systems:  
Five-Year Project Period





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**Read in Concert with Each Other**

**These materials were developed for OHS/Region XI under Contract No. HHSP233201500016C by ICF International.**



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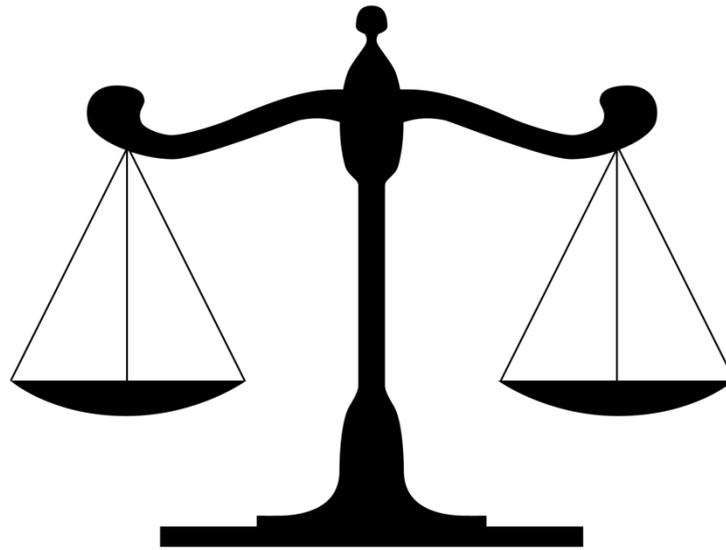
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## Warm-Up

Before

After

Truth  
or  
Myth?



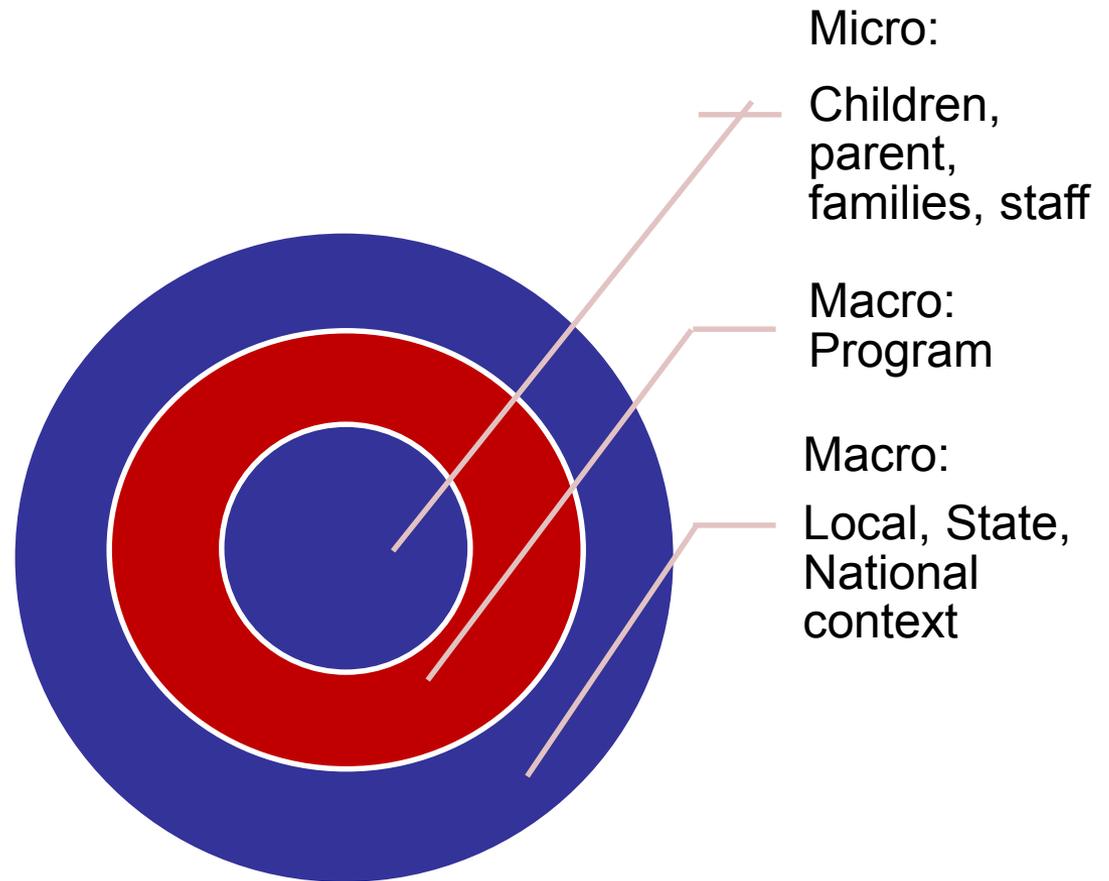
Truth  
or  
Myth?



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# Why a Systems Approach to School Readiness?





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## HSPPS 1302.102

- Partnering with Tribal Council & Policy Council to establish goals and measurable objectives
- Long-term goals to ensure program is responsive to community needs
- Goals focus on education, health, nutrition and family and community engagement



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HSPPS 1302.102, continued

- School readiness goals are aligned with HS Early Learning Outcomes Framework ages birth through five, state and Tribal early learning standards
- Health and safety practices to ensure children are safe at all times



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## HSPPS 1304.11 (b)

- Established program goals for improving school readiness of children
  - Appropriately reflects ages of children birth through five
  - Aligns with Birth to Five HS Child Outcomes Framework
  - Established in consultation with parents



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HSPPS 1304.11 (b), continued

- Aggregating and analyzing aggregate child-level assessment data at least three times per year:
  - Using the data to determine progress toward meeting program goals
  - Inform parents and community of the results
  - Direct continuous improvement related to curriculum, instruction, professional development, program design and other program decisions



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## School Readiness Goals

- Broad statements that articulate the knowledge and skills for children in the five essential domains as they enter kindergarten
- Articulate high expectations for children's progress
- Establish the foundation for assessment



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# Developing School Readiness Goals



- Align with state Early Learning Guidelines and expectations of local schools
- Develop in consultation with parents

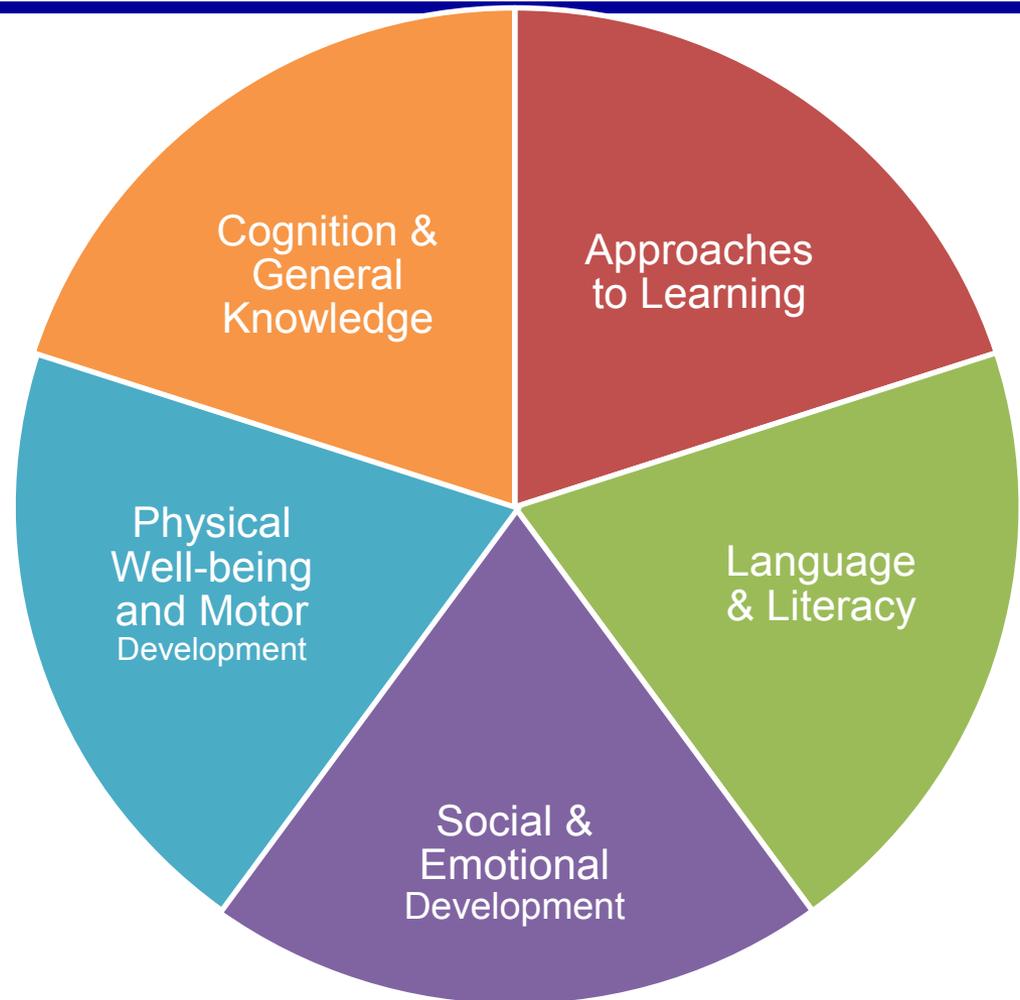


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# School Readiness Goals

Five Essential  
Domains  
For Birth to Five





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# School Readiness vs. Program Goals



Children will...



Program will...



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School  
Readiness  
Goal

- Program goal

Children  
will...

- Program will...



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Program goal

- School Readiness Goal

Program will...

- Children will...



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### School Readiness Goal

- Children will demonstrate growing control of large muscles for movement, navigation and balance

### Program Goal

- Program will improve the use of outdoor time ensuring that teachers plan outdoor activities and interact with children during outdoor time

### Activities

- Provide PD on *I Am Moving, I Am Learning* and/or *Little Voices for Healthy Choices*
- Monitor outdoor time and weekly plans
- Talk to parents about *Let's Move Child Care*.
- Introduce *Let's Move: Child Care Initiative* and ask staff to make a commitment



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### Program Goal

- The program will increase child attendance so that all children will develop the habit of attending school regularly leading to success in kindergarten and opening the doors to college

### School Readiness Goal

- This goal supports all school readiness goals

### Activities

- Create an agency-wide campaign focused on improving attendance
- Develop and present awareness training to all stakeholder groups
- Ensure that parent orientation and initial home visit emphasize importance of regular attendance
- Track and monitor attendance for all program options
- Conduct required follow up for unexcused absences, cancelled home visits or socializations.



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### Program Goal

- Program will support families as lifelong educators

### School Readiness Goal

- This goal supports all school readiness goals

### Activities

- Talk about school readiness goals during home visits and parent meetings
- Incorporate achieving school readiness goals in family partnership agreements
- Provide transition activities for families to do with their children as they enter and leave the program.
- Include all staff in family engagement professional development



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Program goals are....

Objectives are...

**BROAD** Statements  
(Your Destination)

**SMART** parts of Goals  
(Your Mile Markers)

- **Beyond** current expectations
- **Responsive**
- **Organization-wide**
- **Aspirational**
- **Dynamic**

- **Specific**
- **Measureable**
- **Attainable**
- **Realistic**
- **Timely**

Carried out through an Action Plan (Your Road Map)

Recognized & Accepted as Important by All



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## Your Turn: Integrating School Readiness and Program Goals

- Find a partner
- Look at the sample school readiness goal for each of the five essential domains
- Develop a related program-wide goal/goals for each school readiness goal. (You may use the same one more than once.)



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Head Start Management  
Systems:  
Five-Year  
Project Period

Supporting  
School-Readiness  
Goals





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## Sample School Readiness Goal:

- Children will demonstrate growing control of large muscles for movement, navigation and balance



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# A School Readiness Goal and A System

## Sample School Readiness Goal

- Children will demonstrate growing control of large muscles for movement, navigation, and balance

## Facilities, Materials & Equipment

- How might this school readiness goal relate to facilities, materials, and equipment?

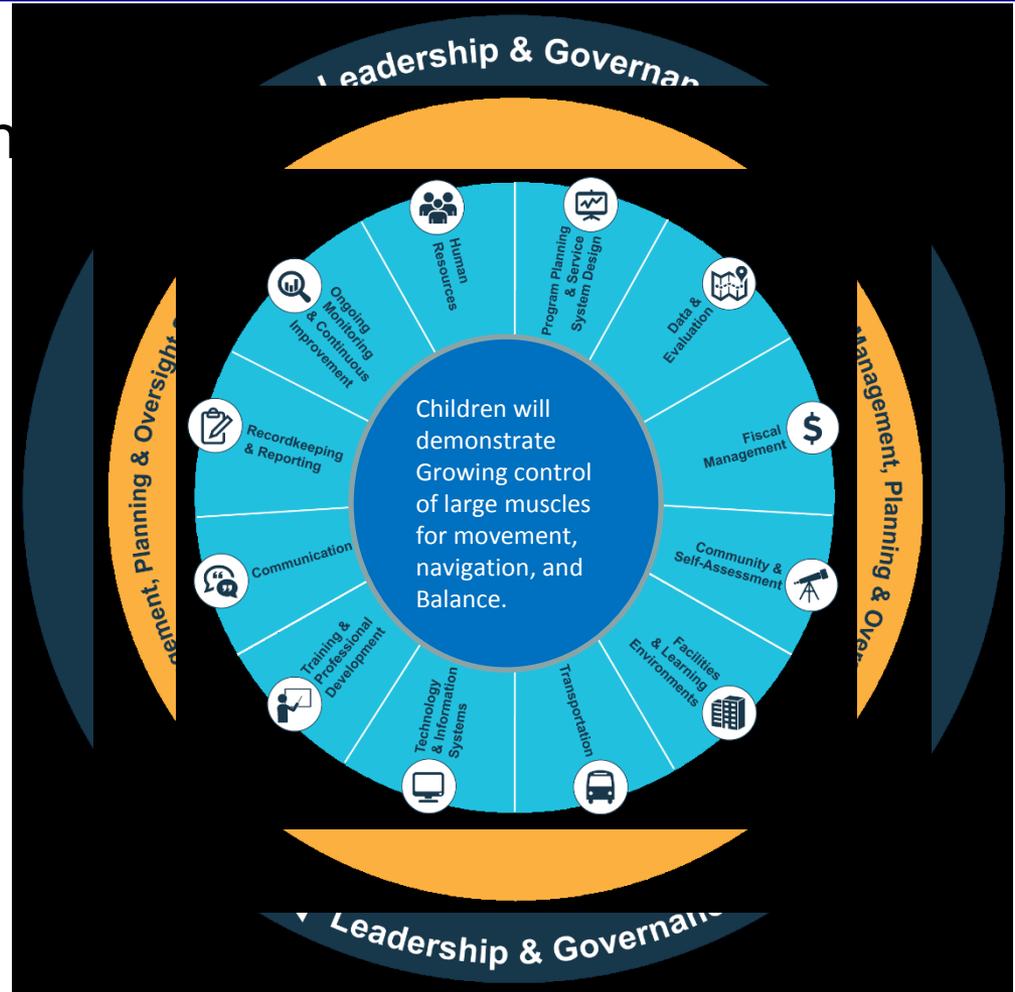


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Systems:  
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# Your Turn: Your System

- As a team, explain how your assigned system supports this specific school readiness goal.



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## Your Turn: Your Systems

Think about your program's school readiness goals.

- Select one and write it in the circle on the handout.
- Answer the questions about strengthening your program's systems to support school readiness



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## Thinking About Goals Through a Systems Lens

***How do you determine the number of goals your program should have?***

- What data will you need to collect?
- How are you going to track, monitor and evaluate activities and progress?
- With whom do you need to communicate your goals?



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## Thinking About Goals Through a Systems Lens

***How do you determine whether you are meeting your goals?***

- What data have you collected?
- How are you tracking, monitoring, and evaluating activities and progress?



### Your Turn: SR Goals Are Infused Into Program Goals

#### School Readiness Goal

- Children will demonstrate growing control of large muscles for movement, navigation, and balance

#### Activities

- Provide PD on *I Am Moving, I Am Learning* and/or *Little Voices for Healthy Choices*
- Monitor outdoor time and weekly plans
- Talk to parents about *Let's Move Child Care*
- Introduce *Let's Move: Child Care Initiative* and ask staff to make a commitment

#### Data sources

- 
- 
-



### Your Turn: Program Goals Support SR Goals



- The program will increase child attendance so that all children will develop the habit of attending school regularly leading to success in kindergarten and opening the doors to college



- Create an agency/program-wide campaign focused on improving attendance
- Share research with staff, families, governing body and Policy Council
- Track attendance and analyze data
- Ensure that staff make home visit to every child who is absent for 3 days without notice



- 
- 
-



# Your Turn: Program Goals Support SR Goals



- Program will support families as lifelong educators



- Talk about school readiness goals during home visits and parent meetings
- Incorporate achieving school readiness goals in family partnership agreements
- Provide transition activities for families to do with their children as they enter and leave the program.
- Include all staff in family engagement professional development



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# Revisiting Your Goals

## School Readiness Goals

- Fairly stable once established and aligned
- Reviewed and changed when context changes

## Program Goals

- Developed based on community assessment, self-assessment, progress goals
- Reviewed annually
- Rewritten to reflect new national priorities or achievement of previous goals



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## Has the Context of Your Goals Changed ?

- Birth to five perspective
- Program demographics
- New information from update to community assessment
- Alignment with LEA and state context
- Need to involve parents in development



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## Telling Your Story: Who needs to Know?

- All staff (including fiscal staff)
- Parents
- Governing Body and Policy Council
- Community partners
- LEAs; state agencies
- Regional Office and OHS
- Funders



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Celebration!



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## Can you.....?

- Describe relationship between school readiness goals and program goals
- Write program goals that support school readiness goals in each domain
- Articulate how Head Start management systems support school readiness goals



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