

April 12, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors, Florida's Early Learning Coalitions and Redlands Christian Migrant Association, Inc.

FROM: Stephanie L. Gehres, Deputy Director of Operations

SUBJECT: 2019 Sliding Fee Schedule

The Office of Early Learning has prepared the attached collection of documents to assist the coalitions as they make preparations to update their coalition's sliding fee schedules.

An important issue families often face when they transition from being a recipient of School Readiness funds to economic self-sufficiency is the adjustment of having to pay the full cost of child care. The Office strives to support families in moving toward economic self-sufficiency and supports the coalition's efforts to help families gradually increase their proportional share of their children's child care costs in order to ensure a smooth transition from services for these families.

The Child Care Development Block Grant of 2014 (658E(c)(5)) requires the sliding fee scale that provides for cost sharing is not a barrier to families receiving assistance. Coalitions are encouraged to analyze their parent co-payments in order to make informed decisions in implementing their new sliding fee scales based on the 2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) and State Median Income (SMI). Implementing a graduated sliding fee scale could help better prepare families as they move toward economic self-sufficiency.

Attached to this memo are the Plan Amendment Justification of Co-Payments Above 10 Percent of Gross Family Income, Parent Sliding Fee Schedule template and the updated FPG Program Guidance.

Please direct any questions regarding this memo or coalition sliding fee schedules to Katerina.Maroney@oel.myflorida.com or 850-717-8614.

SG/kkm

RODNEY J. MACKINNON

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