

What is School Readiness?

The School Readiness program prepares children to become ready for school, and provides parents with information on child development and other topics of interest. The School Readiness program offers financial assistance to income eligible families to help pay for child care.

Who is eligible for assistance?

The School Readiness program offers financial assistance for child care to eligible families if:

- Families that have a parent(s)/guardian(s) who is working or engaged in an educational activity at least 20 hours per week.
- Families that meet the size and gross income Federal Poverty guidelines.
- Families are migrant farm workers with children.
- Families are served by the Family Safety Program Office of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF).
- Families have children with disabilities or special health care needs.
- Families have children at-risk of future school failure.

School Readiness Informational Brochure



For more information contact:



**Agency for Workforce Innovation-
Office of Early Learning**

107 East Madison Street
MSC 140

Tallahassee, FL 32399

www.flready.com or call toll free at: 1-866-357-3239

(1-866 FL READY)

(TTY: 711)

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How do I apply?

To fill out an application you may contact:

- The Agency for Workforce Innovation at 1-866-357-3239 (TTY: 711)
- Visit www.flready.com
- Complete an application on-line at the following website:
<https://spe.schoolreadiness.org/pe/>

What other services does the program provide?

At the time of enrollment your family will be provided:

- A developmental screening for your child; and
- A family needs assessment. The coalition can direct you to other community resources that will best meet your needs.

If my family is eligible can I receive services right away?

If there are no available funds to enroll your child(ren), you will be placed on the wait list. While on the wait list:

- You are required to verify your contact information, employment and family size, every six (6) months. Once funding becomes available, families are enrolled off the wait list on a first come, first served basis.
- Check with your local coalition for length of time you may be on the wait list.

Which child care providers participate in the program?

The Child Care Resource & Referral Network can generate referrals to child care providers that participate in the School Readiness program and other service providers in your community that may meet the needs of your family. Contact your local early learning coalition for more information.

Are there any fees?

Yes; the parent co-payment fee is based on the total of your gross income and your family size

Is it possible to lose the financial assistance services?

Yes, if you:

- Fail to report changes in your employment status, income or family size within ten (10) days of any changes.
- Fail to abide by the terms and conditions set by the early learning coalition.
- Fail to recertify by the due date.
- Do not pay your parent fee.
- Provide false information.

* You also have the right to appeal a decision by contacting the early learning coalition in your county

* If you are receiving assistance, you will need to recertify eligibility every six (6) months to a year



I am not currently employed. Will I be eligible for the program?

It is required that you are working or attending school to be eligible to receive services. Other resources that can help you include:

Employ Florida at 1-866-352-2345.

The coalition can provide you with a listing of child care providers that:

- Offer temporary, drop-in or emergency child care.
- May offer sliding scale fees, sibling discounts and may be willing to negotiate a rate.

For more information, contact your local early learning coalition.