

# Florida School Readiness Program

## Overview

The Florida School Readiness Program offers financial assistance to low-income families for early education and care so they can become financially self-sufficient and their young children can be successful in school in the future.



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## Benefits

- Prepares young children to start kindergarten ready to learn.
- Helps working families afford quality early learning services.
- Keeps parents in the workforce and/or participating in educational activities.
- Helps families become financially independent.
- Recognizes parents as their child's first teacher.
- Provides parents information about child development and family well-being.

## Families

A family of three with two young children earning \$20,420 a year will spend about 76 percent of their income on child care without school readiness help. With the support, the family would spend about eight percent on child care.

School readiness helps income-eligible families with children at risk of future school failure and may include

- Recipients of temporary cash assistance who meet federal work requirements.
- Families with children at risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment.

- Parents who are verified to be homeless.
- Parents who are victims of domestic violence.
- Working families with low incomes.
- Teenage parents.
- Low-income migrant families and farm workers.
- Families of children with disabilities and special health care needs.

## Eligibility

There are three primary eligibility requirements:

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be working or participating in an educational activity such as attending college or trade school at least 20 hours/week.
- Gross income must be at or below 150 percent of federal poverty level for family size.
- Families must pay a copayment for child care based on income and family size.

## Parent Resources

Contact your [early learning coalition](#) to find out more.

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Florida's rank among states in number of children and families benefiting from school readiness

**63**

Percent of families getting school readiness services and in workforce

**8,890**

School readiness child care providers in 2015-16

**207,164**

Children in school readiness in 2015-16