



Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida Policy

220.11 School Readiness and VPK Providers Compliance Policy

Revision Date: 11.14.2022
Board Approval Date: 11/16/2022
Effective Date: 11/16/2022

POLICY:

The Coalition will ensure that all Providers under contract with the Early Learning Coalition will comply with applicable Florida laws, rules, and regulations and the Provider Contracts 6M-4.610 Form OEL SR-20 and 6M-8.301 Form OEL-VPK-20.

The Coalition will ensure provider's ability to meet the conditions of their contract through completion of initial and subsequent developmental screenings in accordance with Rule 6M-4.720, F.A.C. The Coalition will provide training for new providers on the use of the Single Statewide Information System to complete child screenings and follow-up activities if needed for children showing concerns.

Definitions:

Concerns: A child scoring below established thresholds or age-appropriate levels suggested by the authors of a screening instrument.

Enrollment: The final step in the process of entering (or enrolling) a child in the School Readiness program.

Provider: One who delivers child care services, specifically: a child care facility, family child care home, large family child care home, public or nonpublic school exempt from licensure, a faith-based child care program exempt from licensure, a before or after-school program, or an informal child care as authorized by law. (6M-4.610 F.A.C)

School Readiness: The School Readiness Act was passed by the Florida Legislature to help children from low-income families get the support they need to be successful in school. The program provides child care so a parent can work or attend a training or education program. The program is funded primarily by a federal Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant. It is administered at the state level by the Office of Early Learning. (http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/school_readiness.aspx)

Screener : The individual responsible for conducting the developmental screening for each child.

Screening : The activities to identify children who may have concerns and who may need early intervention practices as supports.

Single Statewide Information System (SSIS) :

The designated system used to conduct screenings and provide screening information to early learning coalitions, parents and providers, consisting of the Family Portal, Provider Services Portal, and Coalition Services Portal.

Citation History: 45CFR98, Chapters 402.301 – 402.319, and Section 1002.55-79, F.S. 65C-22 and 65C-20 Florida Administrative Code

Associated Documents: 6M-4.610 Statewide Provider Contract for the School Readiness; 6M-8.301 Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program; 6M-4.720 Screening of Children in the School Readiness Program.