



EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF  
BREVARD COUNTY, INC.  
PO BOX 560692  
ROCKLEDGE, FL 32956-0692  
PHONE: (321) 637-1800  
FAX: (321) 637-7244

**Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021  
4:00 p.m.  
Agenda**

I. Call to Order

Alan Bergman, Board Chair

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Moment

III. Public Comment

IV. United Way update – Robert Raines, CEO

V. Government in the Sunshine Law training video

VI. Minutes: Board meeting, January 19, 2021

ACTION ITEM

VII. Informational Reports

1. Minutes: Finance/Executive Committee, December 8, 2020

2. Executive Director's Report/ Finance Report

3. OEL Statewide Provider Rate Increase – ELCB Coalition Plan Amendment for School

Readiness

IX. New Business

X. Adjourn

Next Board meeting March 16, 2021



# EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF BREVARD COUNTY, INC.

**MINUTES:** Board of Directors Meeting

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 4:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Early Learning Coalition of Brevard, Conference Room, 2671 w Eau Gallie Blvd. Suite 102, Melbourne FL 32937

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alan Bergman, Khaled Jarrah, Caitlin Rice, Bill Drexler, Terri Barlow (TEAMS), Priscilla DeNino, Linda Graham, Henry Perez, Althea Puzio (TEAMS), Patrick Culhane, Vince Denato, Robin Buckmaster, Linda Halpin, Lori Huertas (TEAMS)

**EXCUSED ABSENT** Kelly Shaver, Olivia Nisip, Don Lusk, Natalie Jackson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Harriet Paredes, Eneida Colon, Kristen Johnson, Dennise Milan

**GUEST/PUBLIC:** Douglas Solomon, Early Education Ventures, LLC

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Alan Bergman called the meeting to order and quorum was established 4:05 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance took place.

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY/DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Mission Moment	PowerPoint highlighting the Toy Drive and Barnes and Noble book drive	No Action
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alan Bergman comments that his request for a Sergeant at Arms be tabled indefinitely.</li> <li>Henry Perez requests that all future Board meetings be offered virtually.</li> <li>Khaled Jarrah reiterates his request for a detailed Finance Report</li> <li>Alan Bergman discusses his teaching ISS (international Space Station) to the VPK and SR children ELC of Brevard serves</li> </ul>	No Action
Consent Items	<p>Minutes – November 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Khaled Jarrah would like it noted he requested a one hour finance detail to be added to the minutes. Upon further review his request was included in the original minutes</li> </ul>	Khaled Jarrah makes the motion to approve. Caitlin Rice seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
Executive Directors report/Finance Report	<p>Laura Gambino reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State and Office of Early Learning (OEL) updates: Covid -19 – Governor’s EO 20-52 extended to February 27, 2021</li> <li>SR match report to legislature submitted September 1 and targeted Provider rate increase due to minimum wage</li> </ul>	No Action

	<p>increase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coalition update: Continue modified telework. Offices open to the public with appointment only.</li> <li>• Annual Toy Drive – We were able to provide 52 families with a total of 143 children toys all across Brevard County.</li> <li>• ELC received a \$6,000 donation from Brandon Lape, EXP Realty.</li> <li>• Smartcare program launch tentative for February 2021.</li> <li>• OEL Phase IV CARES grants paid to all providers December 23<sup>rd</sup> with a total additional support to providers of \$432,000</li> <li>• 2018-2019 SR Reconciliation and Repayments. Finalizing the overpayment amounts and negotiating repayment plans and tracking system by February 5<sup>th</sup>. Updates and repayments are updated to OEL monthly.</li> <li>• We are in the process of terminating a provider with two locations in Merrit Island and Melbourne.</li> <li>• Finance report</li> </ul>	
Presentation	Douglas Solomon, Early Education Ventures, LLC	.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 4:50	Henry Perez motioned for the adjournment of the board meeting. Caitlin Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

January 19, 2021 Board minutes were approved at the February 16, 2021 meeting:



## EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF BREVARD COUNTY, INC.

**MINUTES:** Executive/Finance Committee Meeting  
**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 2671 W Eau Gallie Blvd Melbourne, FL 32935  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alan Bergman, Khaled Jarrah, Caitlin Rice, Teri Barlow (TEAMS)  
**ABSENT:**  
**STAFF PRESENT:** Laura Gambino, Jeannie Williams, Dennise Milan  
**GUEST/PUBLIC:**  
**START TIME:** 3:05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY/DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Call to Order	Alan Bergman called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.	No Action
Approval of Meeting Minutes	December 8, 2020, minutes were approved	Khaled Jarrah makes a motion to approve the December 8, 2020 minutes. Caitlin Rice seconded. Unanimous
Executive Director	Laura Gambino reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State and Office of Early Learning (OEL) updates: Covid -19 – Governor’s EO 20-52 extended to February 27, 2021</li> <li>SR match report to legislature submitted September 1 and targeted Provider rate increase due to minimum wage increase.</li> <li>Coalition update: Continue modified telework. Offices open to the public with appointment only.</li> <li>Annual Toy Drive – We were able to provide 52 families with a total of 143 children toys all across Brevard County.</li> <li>ELC received a \$6,000 donation from Brandon Lape, EXP Realty.</li> <li>Smartcare program launch tentative for February 2021.</li> <li>OEL Phase IV CARES grants paid to all providers December 23<sup>rd</sup> with a total additional support to providers of \$432,000</li> <li>2018-2019 SR Reconciliation and Repayments. Finalizing the overpayment amounts and negotiating repayment plans and tracking system by February 5<sup>th</sup>. Updates and repayments are updated to OEL monthly.</li> <li>We are in the process of terminating a provider with two locations in Merrit Island and Melbourne.</li> </ul>	No Action
Finance	Dennise Milan gives the Finance report, Khaled Jarrah questions the Total non-slot dollars saying the Admin cost, Non-Direct cost and Quality cost do not add up to the total. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>This has been fixed and the corrected November report is attached</b></li> </ul>	
Adjournment	Meeting was Adjourned at 3:45	Khaled Jarrah motioned for the adjournment of the

		Executive/Finance Committee meeting. Caitlin Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed Unanimously.
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January 19, 2021 ELC/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Approved at February 16, 2021 ELC/Finance Meeting:

## Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, Inc.

Budget to Actual -  
7/1/2020-1/31/2021

9

	<b>YTD Actual @ 1/31/2021</b>	<b>through January (7/12ths)</b>	<b>Yearly Budget</b>	<b>Mo</b>	<b>Yr %</b>	<b>Budget Balance</b>	<b>Current Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>Notes (+ or - 10% of budget)</b>
					58.3%			
<b>Personnel Expenses</b>								
Salaries	935,270	1,400,000	2,400,000	67%	39%	1,464,730	464,730	
Payroll Taxes	68,606	113,750	195,000	60%	35%	126,394	45,144	
Workers' Comp Insurance	4,023	7,750	13,286	52%	30%	9,263	3,727	
Fringe Benefits	134,677	204,167	350,000	66%	38%	215,323	69,490	
<b>Total Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>1,142,575</b>	<b>1,725,667</b>	<b>2,958,286</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>1,815,711</b>	<b>583,092</b>	
<b>Other Expenses</b>								
Audit	13,100	16,333	28,000	80%	47%	14,900	3,233	
Bank Fees	-	292	500	0%	0%	500	292	
Computing/Networking	49,230	71,832	123,140	69%	40%	73,910	22,602	
IT Equipment	12,765	29,167	50,000	44%	26%	37,235	16,401	
Dues & Subscriptions	8,108	12,367	21,200	66%	38%	13,092	4,259	
Employment Costs	5,758	4,375	7,500	132%	77%	1,742	(1,383)	additional background and drug screenings, per OEL request
Equipment Leases	8,087	9,625	16,500	84%	49%	8,413	1,538	
Furniture & Fixtures	4,032	2,917	5,000	138%	81%	968	(1,115)	sign for Melbourne office, one time purchase \$4k
Insurance	11,671	17,500	30,000	67%	39%	18,329	5,829	
Legal Services	3,278	11,667	20,000	28%	16%	16,723	8,389	
Maint & Repair	5,480	11,667	20,000	47%	27%	14,520	6,187	
Office Expense	6,000	10,792	18,500	56%	32%	12,500	4,791	
Postage	1,280	2,917	5,000	44%	26%	3,720	1,637	
Printing	3,152	6,708	11,500	47%	27%	8,348	3,556	
Public Education	11,995	31,663	54,280	38%	22%	42,285	19,669	
Rent	172,653	187,674	321,726	92%	54%	149,073	15,020	
Training / Tech Assistance	8,125	29,167	50,000	28%	16%	41,875	21,042	
Telephone	18,899	8,750	15,000	216%	126%	(3,899)	(10,149)	cell phones for each employee for pandemic related teleworking efficiencies
Training/Conf/Meetings	15,403	17,500	30,000	88%	51%	14,597	2,097	
Travel	492	17,500	30,000	3%	2%	29,508	17,008	
Utilities	8,399	11,667	20,000	72%	42%	11,601	3,268	
Contractors	20,719	17,500	30,000	118%	69%	9,281	(3,219)	Zack H & Marsha B, offset by open Finance Director position
Unallocated	484	43,750	75,000	1%	1%	74,516	43,266	
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>389,109</b>	<b>573,327</b>	<b>982,846</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>593,737</b>	<b>184,218</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,531,684</b>	<b>2,298,994</b>	<b>3,941,132</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>2,409,448</b>	<b>767,309</b>	

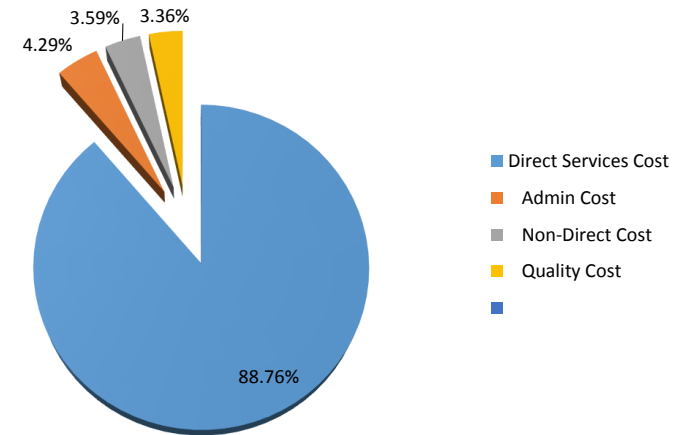
\*\* Current Budget is straight-line projection

School Readiness				
Category of Spending	FY 20-21 Award	Actual thru 12/31/2021	Current %	Earmark/ Restrictions
Award Amount	\$ 24,534,736			
Direct Services Cost	\$ 19,137,094	\$ 10,074,397	88.76%	Minimum 78%
Non-Slot Dollars:				
Admin Cost	\$ 1,226,737	487,013	4.29%	Maximum 5%
Non-Direct Cost	1,606,483	407,268	3.59%	
Quality Cost	1,928,880	381,659	3.36%	Minimum 4%
Total Non-Slot Dollars	\$ 4,762,100	\$ 1,275,940	11.24%	Maximum 22%
PDG Grant Services	\$ 127,314	\$ -	0.00%	
SR Program Assessment*	\$ 0	\$ -	0.00%	

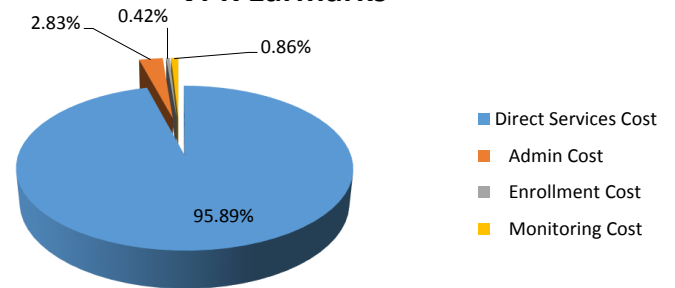
\* Award dollars not allocated by OEL Note: no separate allocation FY 20-21 (included in Quality dollars)

*				
Category of Spending	FY 20-21 Award	12/31/2021	Current %	Earmark/ Restrictions
Award Amount	\$ 11,766,833			
Direct Services Cost	\$ 11,314,311	\$ 3,831,416	95.89%	Minimum 96%
Non-Slot Dollars:				
Admin Cost	\$ 305,905	\$ 112,959	2.83%	
Enrollment Cost	112,319	16,906	0.42%	Maximum 4%
Monitoring Cost	31,927	34,456	0.86%	
Total Non-Slot Dollars	\$ 450,150	\$ 164,321	4.11%	

**School Readiness Earmarks**



**VPK Earmarks**





## Executive Director's Report - Laura Gambino Executive/Finance Meeting February 16, 2021

### State and Office of Early Learning (OEL) Updates

- OEL Executive Director update calls - weekly
- AELC Board of Directors calls - weekly

### Coalition Update:

- OEL Statewide Targeted Provider Rate Increase approved. Fiscal impact statement and coalition plan amendment documents attached for Board of Directors review and approval. Provider rate increases are effective January 1, 2021 and will be the new base rate amount for new contract year. See attached supporting documents.
- Additionally, through our partnership with Beach 98.5 radio, we received a \$6,000 donation from Brandon Lape, EXP Realty. Brandon and his team have expressed interest in future partnership and fund development opportunities.
- Legislative Activity – committees meeting and Rep. Randy Fine is Chair for Appropriations for Early Education and PreK-12. Initiated a call with Rep. Fine on February 10<sup>th</sup> as resource and cultivation outreach.
- Finance Updates
  - Desk Review for expenditures Jan-June received complete and with no findings. Desk Review July-Dec is complete and submitted for review.
  - OEL Fiscal Monitoring report – waiting for Draft Report for response.
  - Single Audit process begins with Interim Finance Director in contact with auditors and has submitted initial request for finance statements.
- We are in process of termination of a provider with two locations in Merritt Island and Melbourne. The initial meeting is set for January 20<sup>th</sup> to meet with community licensing team and determine next steps.
- 2018-2019 SR Reconciliation and Repayments are beginning to be processed for all providers. Repayment plan submissions to OEL due date extended to March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- United Way grant in process and due February 26<sup>th</sup>. Brevard county CDBG grant deadline was missed; projected to submit next cycle estimated April-May for 2021-2022 fiscal year.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:





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PO BOX 560692  
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- CARES Act Budget Amendment for First Responders – additional revenue and support forthcoming through March 31<sup>st</sup>
- 2021.2022 Annual Agency Budget and Operations Budget analysis and preparation begins with Finance and Operations staff March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Proposed Rules for Program Assessment Rules 6M.4.741 for School Readiness Program Assessment Threshold Requirements – public hearings and State Board Meeting March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Additional priority items:
  - VPK and SR Proposed Rules for Statewide Contracts – impact mostly to Program Assessment Threshold Requirements
  - Child Care Deserts – mapgap project with UF to utilize mapping and zip code for capacity and fulfilling local child care deserts
  - VPK Flex and Progress Monitoring Programs are activated
  - Legislature – January 11-15<sup>th</sup> Committee week
  - Finance Director and Wipfli Trainings for all new FD statewide – Jan 25<sup>th</sup> for OEL training and Wipfli is Feb-May
  - OEL Program Monitoring reviewing “virtual” monitoring as option

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:





February 11, 2021

Ms. Laura Gambino  
Executive Director  
Early Learning Coalition of Brevard  
P.O. Box 560692  
Rockledge, FL 32956-0692

Dear Ms. Gambino:

The Office of Early Learning (OEL) has reviewed and approved the Early Learning Coalition of the Brevard's amendment to the School Readiness Plan for Element II.I Provider Payment Rates, pursuant to section 1002.85(2), Florida Statutes. OEL has placed the SR Plan in the school readiness plan files and is uploading a copy to SharePoint for the coalition's records.

Please contact Andrea Barber, Lead Policy Analyst, at 850-717-8599 or [Andrea.Barber@oel.myflorida.com](mailto:Andrea.Barber@oel.myflorida.com) with any further questions regarding the coalition's school readiness plan.

Sincerely,

Katerina Maroney  
Deputy Director of Programs and Policy  
Director's Office  
Office of Early Learning

SHAN GOFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

250 MARRIOTT DRIVE • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399 • 850-717-8550 • Toll Free 866-357-3239 • [www.FloridaEarlyLearning.com](http://www.FloridaEarlyLearning.com)



## 2021 School Readiness Provider Rate Increases

### Background

The 2020 Legislature appropriated \$50M in federal Child Care Development Funds for School Readiness (SR) provider rate increases to, "...reduce variance and inequities in provider payment rates across the state." Provider reimbursements for SR services are based on many factors including:

- The child's age/care level (infant, toddler, 2-year olds, 3-, 4- or 5-year olds, or school age).
- The type of provider (private center, family child care home, public school, non-public school).
- Whether the provider has earned Gold Seal status.
- The coalition's negotiated reimbursement rate with each provider.
- The provider's private pay rate for non-SR families.

Each state is required to calculate a market rate which is what the general population is being charged for child care services by providers. This is so that payment rates can be set to allow SR families equal access to the full range of child care available to families not receiving subsidies. While there is no threshold set for equal access, a benchmark of the **75th percentile** of rates reported in the market rate is a national goal.

### Priorities for Increasing Rates

A tiered methodology was used to increase SR provider reimbursement rates, effective January 1, 2021. This prioritized the Infants, Toddlers and 2-Year Olds care levels and also raised the reimbursement rates for 3-, 4-, and 5-Year Olds.

Care Level /Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Infants: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Toddlers: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	2 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	3 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	4 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	5 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Estimated Fiscal Impact for 120 Days (6 Months)
	100%	85%	85%	75%	75%	75%	\$47,873,265

### Implementation

Each early learning coalition and Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) are completing the processes required to implement these changes to over 7,100 SR providers. Most will process supplemental payments for January's increases this month. February payments will reflect these higher rates.

### Impact

It is estimated that over 6,600 School Readiness providers or 92% will benefit from these increases. It is important to note, that if the coalition's approved base reimbursement rate is higher than the percentages proposed, there will be no increase to these rates. However, there will not be any reductions in provider reimbursement rates.

SHAN GOFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

250 MARRIOTT DRIVE • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399 • 850-717-8550 • Toll Free 866-357-3239 • [www.FloridaEarlyLearning.com](http://www.FloridaEarlyLearning.com)

## Jeannie Williams

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**From:** Laura Gambino  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 5:26 PM  
**To:** alstock3@gmail.com; Althea Puzio; Bill Drexler; caitlin@caitlinricepr.com; Culhane.Patrick; dlusk@careersourcebrevard.com; Donato.Vincent; Graham, Linda; eperez@fit.edu; Huertas, Lori; Jeannie Williams; info@mycoralreefacademy.com; Khaled Jarrah; Laura Gambino; Linda\_Halpin@dcf.state.fl.us; Natalie.Jackson@chsfl.org; Nisip, Olivia; Priscilla Denino (denino.priscilla@brevardschools.org); Robin.buckmaster@flhealth.gov; shaverk@easternflorida.edu; Barlow.Terri@Brevardschools.org  
**Cc:** Jeannie Williams  
**Subject:** ELC Brevard School Readiness Plan Amendment - Provider Rate Increase

Dear ELC Board Members;

As an update to the Executive Director report in January, we have received notification authorizing an amendment to the coalition's School Readiness Plan and provider contracts to implement a provider rate increases from the Office of Early Learning. The 2020 Legislature appropriated \$50 million in Child Care Development Funds (CCDF) to the Office of Early Learning (OEL) for provider rate increases.

This email serves as initial notification and action update. A complete Board briefing document and amendment ratification report will be added to the Board of Directors meeting agenda on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

We are excited about this opportunity to give additional support to our providers – more to come! Laura

*In an attempt to follow the lead of national, state, and local officials to help minimize the spread of COVID-19, the ELC of Brevard County will be conducting all business with providers and clients electronically and via telephone. Please note my schedule is: Mon-Thur 7am-4pm; Friday 8am-12pm.*

Laura C. Gambino, MPA, CEcD

Executive Director

Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, Inc.

Office (321) 637.1800 ext. 8567

Cell (321) 423.4268

(321) 637-7244 FAX

Email: [lgambino@elcbrevard.org](mailto:lgambino@elcbrevard.org)

Website: [www.elcbrevard.org](http://www.elcbrevard.org)



LAUNCHING A CHILD'S FUTURE

Sunshine Law and Public Records Law: The Florida Government in the Sunshine Law prohibits discussion outside a duly noticed meeting between any two or more Early Learning Coalition Board Members regarding any matter that may come before the Board. This prohibition extends to discussions via e-mail. Furthermore, most

Coalition Name: Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, Inc.

Section Amended (Part and element number)	Proposed Effective Date	Coalition Signature & Date	Fiscal Impact Y/N	Date Received by OEL	OEL Approval Official Signature & Date
1. Plan Amendment Fiscal Impact	01/01/2022	Laura Gambino <small>Digitally signed by Laura Gambino DN: cn=Laura Gambino, o=Early Learning Coalition of Brevard County, ou, email=lgambino@elcibrevard.org, c=US Date: 2021.02.10 16:52:42 -0500</small>	Y		Katerina Maroney <small>Digitally signed by Katerina Maroney DN: cn=Katerina Maroney, o=OEL, ou=Policy, email=katerina.maroney@oel.myflorida.com, c=US Date: 2021.02.11 11:37:30 -0500</small>
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

Note: A coalition is responsible for completing the first four columns of this form. Amendment requests should follow the instructions outlined in OEL File 206.15. The coalition is advised to retain all versions of approved school readiness plans.



Office of Early Learning  
Plan Amendment Fiscal Impact Statement

ELC of: Brevard

2.10.202

Amendment Number:

Select from dropdown

Contact Person:

Laura Gambino

1. PROPOSED ACTION: Use the boxes below to select the applicable proposed actions.

Describe the change to your plan that will have a fiscal impact. (Check all that apply)

☒ Provider Rate Change

☒ Rate Increase

☐ Rate Decrease

End Date:

☐ Temporary

☒ Permanent

If Temporary:

Begin Date:

☐ Rate Increase

☐ Rate Decrease

End Date:

☐ Temporary

☐ Permanent

☐ Parent Fee Change

☐ Fee Increase

☐ Fee Decrease

End Date:

☐ Temporary

☐ Permanent

If Temporary:

Begin Date:

☐ Fee Increase

☐ Fee Decrease

End Date:

☐ Temporary

☐ Permanent

☐ Other Program(s) Added/Changed:

2. BACKGROUND / HISTORY: Complete the following:

Provide a written summary of the rate increase being requested by answering the following questions. This should include the provider types and care levels affected. Also indicate whether the rate increase applies to full-time, part-time or both.

What caused the need for an amendment?

The 2020 Legislature appropriated \$50 million in Child Care Development Funds (CCDF) to the Office of Early Learning (OEL) for provider rate increases. The requirements of this appropriation are below.

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 85, \$50,000,000 in nonrecurring funds from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund is provided to the Office of Early Learning to provide eligible early learning coalitions with school readiness provider rate increases to reduce variance and inequities in provider payment rates across the state. The funds shall be placed in reserve. Upon the completion of a detailed allocation plan that identifies the school readiness provider payment rates that will be increased and how the \$50,000,000 will be allocated to the eligible early learning coalitions, the office is authorized to submit budget amendments for the funds being held in reserve pursuant to the provisions of chapter 216 Florida Statutes.

Describe the fiscal impact of this amendment.

The Office of Early Learning (OEL), in collaboration with the coalitions, has proposed to prioritize care levels as follows:

1. Infants/Special Needs\* (5% of total SR population)

2. Toddlers and Preschool Age 2 (10% and 13% of total SR population)

3. Preschool Ages 3, 4 and 5 years old (15%, 15% and 11% of total SR population)

A tiered methodology will be used to model the increases by care levels for a maximum allocation of \$50M for January – June 2021.

How were parents, providers and the public involved in the decision for this amendment?

There is a statewide provider rate increase mandated by the legislature.

Date of amendment Adoption:

Date Budget Approved:

2020-21

## School Readiness Program Provider Rate Increases





# 2020-2021 School Readiness Program Provider Rate Increases

## 2020-2021 Appropriations

The 2020 Florida Legislature appropriated \$50 million in Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) to the Office of Early Learning (OEL) for provider rate increases. The requirements of this appropriation are below.

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 85, \$50,000,000 in nonrecurring funds from the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund is provided to the Office of Early Learning to provide eligible early learning coalitions with school readiness provider rate increases to reduce variance and inequities in provider payment rates across the state. The funds shall be placed in reserve. Upon the completion of a detailed allocation plan that identifies the school readiness provider payment rates that will be increased and how the \$50,000,000 will be allocated to the eligible early learning coalitions, the office is authorized to submit budget amendments for the funds being held in reserve pursuant to the provisions of chapter 216 Florida Statutes.

## Fair Market Rate for Child Care

Federal regulations implementing CCDF (45 CFR §98.45) require states to ensure equal access to child care by setting a fair Market Rate every two years. To ensure base provider payment rates are established at least at a level sufficient for child care providers to meet health, safety, quality, and staffing requirements, it is recommended that states reimburse providers at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.

## 2019 Market Rates and Provider Base Reimbursement Rates

The 2019 Market Rates include the quality differentials paid to providers for earning designated program assessment (CLASS) scores and participating in child assessments. For this reason, the coalitions' base reimbursement rates, as approved by OEL, will be used in the methodology to determine the 2020-2021 provider rate increases.

Reimbursement rates are determined by care level, part-time and full-time, for:

- Infants – Birth to 12 months of age
- Special Needs – Birth to 14 years of age (This rate is calculated as a differential based on the infant rate.)
- Toddlers – 12 to 24 months of age
- 2-Year Olds – 24 to 36 months of age
- Preschool 3-Year-Olds – 36 to 48 months of age
- Preschool 4-Year-Olds – 48 to 60 months of age
- Preschool 5-Year-Olds – 60 months of age to school entry
- School Age – School entry to 14 years of age

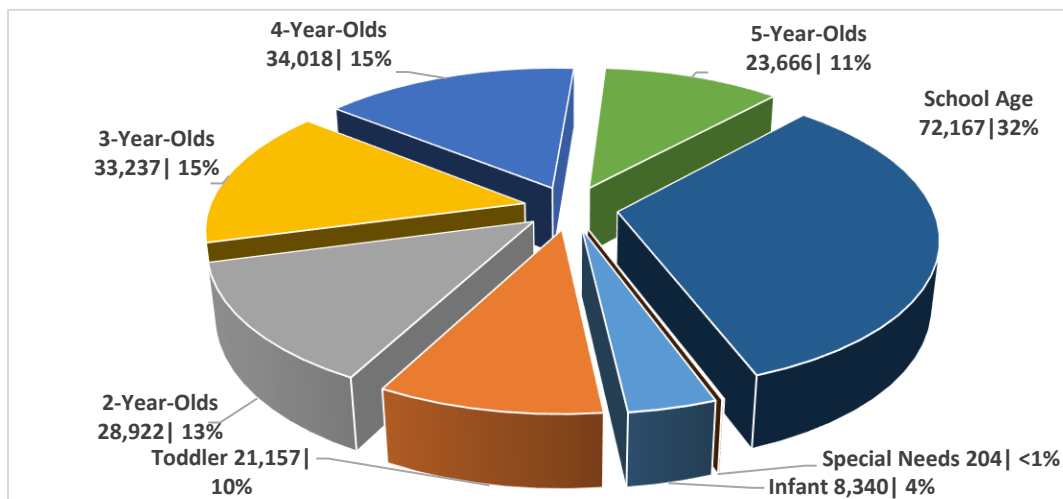
These rates are also calculated by the following provider types for Gold Seal and Non-Gold Seal:

- Private Center
- Large Family Child Care Home
- Family Child Care Home
- Public School
- Non-Public School
- Faith-Based Exempt

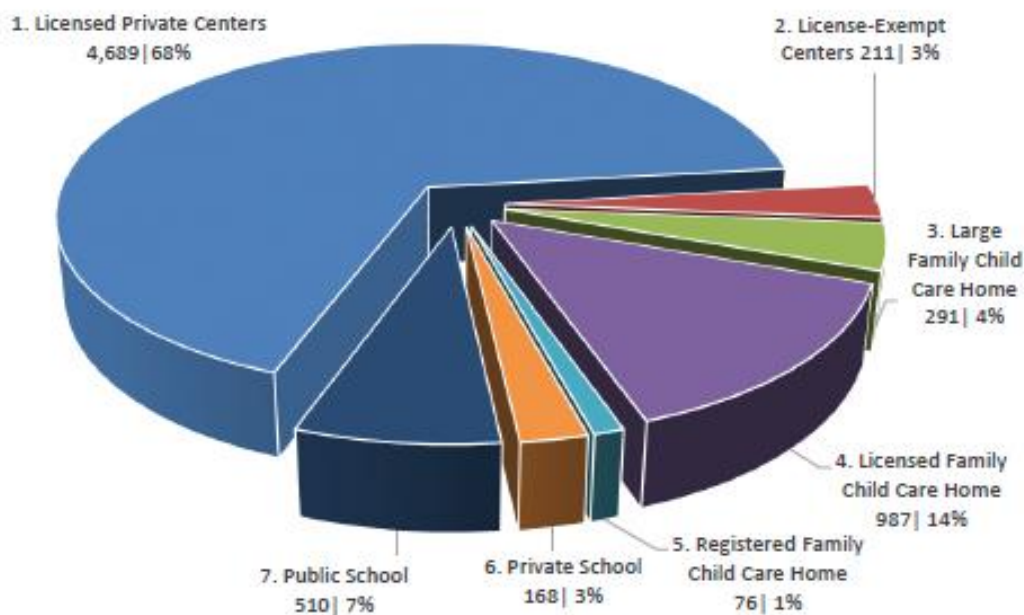


Children Served in 2019-2020 School Readiness Programs and School Readiness Providers  
 In 2019-20, 221,711 children, birth through school-age, were served in 6,932 child care providers.<sup>1</sup>

**2019-20 SR Children Served by Age Groups<sup>2</sup> (221,711)**



**2019-2020 School Readiness Providers by Type (6,932)**



<sup>1</sup> OEL SR enrollment data from EFS Mod as of November, 2020; subject to change pending fiscal year closeout.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

## Current SR Reimbursement Rates as a Percentage of the 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile of the 2019 Market Rates

SR base reimbursement rates are compared to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of the market rate for purposes of measuring how far the state has to go to get to the federal recommendation of the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. Current statewide average SR base reimbursement rate percentages and average reimbursement rate amounts as compared to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile by care level and provider type are displayed in the table below. Note that since the Market Rate Survey categories (Large Family Day Care Homes and Family Child Care Homes) do not directly align with the SR Plan Rates for Licensed Family Child Care Home as SR Plan Rate as a percentage of the 75th Percentile, for Licensed Family Child Care Home rates, the greater of the Market Rate Survey Large Family Day Care Home rate or Family Child Care Home rate was used. For Registered Family Child Care Home rates, the Family Child Care Home rate was used.

Statewide Average														
		Current SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rates						Current SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rates as % of the 2019 Market Rates						
		Non Gold Seal			Gold Seal			Non Gold Seal			Gold Seal			
Unit Of Care	Care Level	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	
Full Time	Infant	\$29.98	\$22.05	\$13.88	\$35.88	\$26.38	\$16.58	78.02%	61.18%	40.80%	75.70%	60.48%	38.02%	
	Toddler	\$25.79	\$19.70	\$12.52	\$30.86	\$23.57	\$14.95	76.36%	62.48%	41.27%	76.25%	60.59%	38.44%	
	2 Year Old	\$24.15	\$18.49	\$11.72	\$28.90	\$22.13	\$14.00	74.37%	57.64%	38.19%	72.12%	55.75%	35.28%	
	Preschool 3	\$22.60	\$17.49	\$11.27	\$27.04	\$20.93	\$13.46	75.21%	58.10%	38.73%	72.96%	55.43%	35.67%	
	Preschool 4	\$22.20	\$17.16	\$11.14	\$26.57	\$20.53	\$13.31	77.63%	57.75%	40.31%	72.80%	57.51%	37.29%	
	Preschool 5	\$21.95	\$16.94	\$11.07	\$26.26	\$20.26	\$13.22	77.55%	60.70%	40.59%	72.92%	59.81%	39.15%	
Part Time	Infant	\$20.85	\$14.98	\$9.49	\$24.95	\$17.92	\$11.11	61.04%	51.98%	35.54%	62.51%	50.29%	31.19%	
	Toddler	\$18.37	\$13.46	\$8.54	\$21.98	\$16.10	\$9.98	61.17%	53.81%	34.16%	62.34%	50.66%	31.42%	
	2 Year Old	\$17.09	\$12.64	\$7.95	\$20.44	\$15.12	\$9.31	60.27%	51.11%	32.57%	58.19%	45.10%	27.76%	
	Preschool 3	\$15.65	\$11.92	\$7.63	\$18.72	\$14.25	\$8.93	60.81%	50.20%	33.55%	59.50%	46.45%	29.10%	
	Preschool 4	\$15.50	\$11.77	\$7.55	\$18.55	\$14.08	\$8.83	63.16%	51.42%	34.37%	59.27%	47.39%	29.72%	
	Preschool 5	\$15.41	\$11.68	\$7.54	\$18.44	\$13.97	\$8.82	63.72%	53.11%	34.53%	60.51%	47.00%	29.67%	

			Proposed New Rates						Rate Increase Amount					
			Non Gold Seal			Gold Seal			Non Gold Seal			Gold Seal		
Unit Of Care	Care Level	Rate Increase Percentage of the 75th Percentile	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes	Licensed / Exempt	Licensed Family Child Care Home	Registered Family Child Care Homes
Full Time	Infant	100%	\$38.43	\$36.23	\$34.01	\$47.41	\$43.61	\$43.61	\$8.45	\$14.18	\$20.14	\$11.52	\$17.23	\$27.03
	Toddler	85%	\$28.71	\$27.17	\$25.77	\$34.40	\$33.07	\$33.07	\$2.92	\$7.46	\$13.26	\$3.54	\$9.49	\$18.11
	2 Year Old	85%	\$27.60	\$27.41	\$26.08	\$34.06	\$33.73	\$33.73	\$3.45	\$8.92	\$14.36	\$5.16	\$11.61	\$19.73
	Preschool 3	75%	\$22.54	\$22.80	\$21.82	\$27.80	\$28.31	\$28.31	\$0.00	\$5.31	\$10.56	\$0.76	\$7.39	\$14.85
	Preschool 4	75%	\$21.45	\$22.45	\$20.74	\$27.37	\$26.78	\$26.78	\$0.00	\$5.29	\$9.59	\$0.80	\$6.24	\$13.46
	Preschool 5	75%	\$21.23	\$21.26	\$20.45	\$27.01	\$25.41	\$25.33	\$0.00	\$4.33	\$9.38	\$0.75	\$5.15	\$12.11
Part Time	Infant	100%	\$34.16	\$29.43	\$26.70	\$39.91	\$35.63	\$35.63	\$13.31	\$14.45	\$17.21	\$14.96	\$17.71	\$24.51
	Toddler	85%	\$25.53	\$21.89	\$21.24	\$29.97	\$27.01	\$27.01	\$7.16	\$8.43	\$12.71	\$7.99	\$10.91	\$17.02
	2 Year Old	85%	\$24.10	\$21.51	\$20.75	\$29.87	\$28.49	\$28.49	\$7.01	\$8.87	\$12.80	\$9.42	\$13.37	\$19.18
	Preschool 3	75%	\$19.30	\$18.29	\$17.05	\$23.60	\$23.01	\$23.01	\$3.65	\$6.37	\$9.42	\$4.88	\$8.76	\$14.08
	Preschool 4	75%	\$18.41	\$17.70	\$16.47	\$23.47	\$22.29	\$22.29	\$2.91	\$5.93	\$8.92	\$4.92	\$8.21	\$13.45
	Preschool 5	75%	\$18.14	\$17.09	\$16.37	\$22.86	\$22.30	\$22.30	\$2.73	\$5.41	\$8.84	\$4.41	\$8.33	\$13.48

## Priority and Methodology for Calculating School Readiness Provider Rate Increases

In January 2021, OEL convened a workgroup of early learning coalition executive directors to review options for the provider increases. Consensus was reached on the priorities and methodology described below.

Care levels will be prioritized as follows:

- Infants/Special Needs\* (5% of total SR children served).
- Toddlers and Preschool Age 2 (10% and 13% of total SR children served).
- Preschool Ages 3, 4 and 5 years old (15%, 15% and 11%, respectively of total SR children served).

A tiered methodology, as displayed below, was used to increase reimbursement rates, by care levels, for a maximum allocation of \$50M for provider payments for January – June 2021.

Care Level /Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Infants: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Toddlers: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	2 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	3 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	4 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	5 Year Olds: Percent of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Estimated Fiscal Impact for 120 Days (6 Months)
	100%	85%	85%	75%	75%	75%	\$47,873,265

Details for the calculation methodology and the fiscal impact, by care levels, are below.

2020-21 Provider Rate Increases Proposed Methodology and Source Notes  
Data Points Utilized in Analysis of Fiscal Impact of Targeted Provider Rate Increases

Data Point	Data Source	Description
1 SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rates (Coalition Max Rates)	EFSM "CoalitionSRRate" and "CoalitionSRRatePlan" tables	Data query 1.8.21 from EFSM CoalitionSRRate and CoalitionSRRatePlan tables, for all coalitions, counties, care levels, units of care, Gold Seal Status, and provider types. Resulting data set was narrowed to include the rate plans for the primary counties within each coalition, Full-time (FT) and Part-time (PT) rates only, to best align and compare to the 75th Percentile for each grouping within the 2019 Market Rate Survey.
2 75th Percentile of the Market Rate	2019 Market Rate Survey	75th Percentile rate for each Provider Type, Gold Seal Status, Care Level and Unit of Care. Where 75th Percentile Rate is not available for the grouping at the county level, the statewide average is used.  <i>*Cells highlighted light orange indicate that the statewide average was used in place of an actual provided rate.</i>
3 SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rates as a Percent of the 75th Percentile	Calculated Field (Data Point 1 divided by Data Point 2)	SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rates (1) divided by the 75th Percentile of the Market Rate (2), for each Provider Type, Gold Seal Status, Care Level and Unit of Care. For Licensed Family Child Care Home and Registered Family Child Care Home rates, since the Market Rate Survey categories (Large Family Day Care Homes and Family Child Care Homes) do not directly align with the SR Plan Rates (Licensed Family Child Care Home and Registered Family Child Care Home), for Licensed Family Child Care Home as SR Plan Rate as a percentage of the 75th Percentile, the Greater Of the Market Rate Survey data Large Family Day Care Home rate or Family Child Care Home rate was used. For Registered Family Child Care Home Rates as a percentage of the 75th percentile of the Market Rate, the Family Child Care Home rate was used.  <i>*Percentages are color coded as follows: Green = 75%+ of the 75th Percentile Yellow = 50% - 74% of the 75th Percentile Red = Less than 50% of the 75th Percentile</i>
4 Rate Calculation as a Percent of 75th Percentile	Calculated Field	The 75th Percentile Rate from the Market Rate Survey (2), multiplied by each of the following incremental percentages, rounding results to the nearest percentile: 75th Percentile (100% of the 75th), 95% of the 75th Percentile, 90% of the 75th Percentile, 85% of the 75th Percentile, 80% of the 75th Percentile, 75% of the 75th Percentile, 65% of the 75th Percentile, 60% of the 75th Percentile, 50% of the 75th Percentile.
5 SR Rate Increase Amount	Calculated Field (If Data Point 4 is greater than 1, result 4 minus 1)	For each Provider Type, Gold Seal Status, Care Level and Unit of Care: If the resulting Rate Calculation as Percent of the 75th Percentile (4) is greater than the SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rate (1), then the SR Rate Increase amount is Rate Calculation as Percent of the 75th Percentile (4) minus the SR Plan Base Reimbursement Rate (1).
6 Children Enrolled as of January 2021	EFSM	Number of children enrolled at each provider as of January 14, 2021, for each coalition, county, provider type, gold seal status, care level and unit of care. (Statewide total = 146,342)
7 Annual Days Paid	Input Field	240 Days, based on avg of 20 days paid per month (accounting for statewide average number of unpaid absences per month) for 12 months for annual increase; 120 days used for January - June impact.
8 Fiscal Impact	Calculated Field (Data Point 5 multiplied by Data Point 6 multiplied by Data Point 7)	Fiscal Impact for each scenario is calculated by multiplying the resulting SR Rate Increase Amount (5) times the number of Children Enrolled as of January 2021 (6) times the Annual Days Paid (7).

### Fiscal Impact Scenarios

Base SR Reimbursement Rate Increase	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Annual Impact	Jan - June Impact
	Infants / Special Needs	Toddlers	Preschool Ages 3-5	Statewide Total for 240	Statewide Total for 120
	INF, SPCR	TODD, 2YR	PR3, PR4, PR5	Days	Days
75th Percentile	\$ 13,395,346	\$ 89,848,174	\$ 130,732,063	\$ 233,975,582	\$ 116,987,791
95% of 75th Percentile	\$ 10,831,298	\$ 75,246,699	\$ 109,790,552	\$ 195,868,548	\$ 97,934,274
90% of 75th Percentile	\$ 8,373,670	\$ 60,863,814	\$ 89,092,388	\$ 158,329,873	\$ 79,164,937
85% of 75th Percentile	\$ 6,125,942	\$ 47,554,556	\$ 69,057,720	\$ 122,738,218	\$ 61,369,109
80% of 75th Percentile	\$ 4,120,689	\$ 34,623,783	\$ 50,888,109	\$ 89,632,581	\$ 44,816,290
75% of 75th Percentile	\$ 2,309,527	\$ 22,997,769	\$ 34,796,628	\$ 60,103,924	\$ 30,051,962
70% of 75th Percentile	\$ 1,001,903	\$ 13,300,702	\$ 21,456,571	\$ 35,759,177	\$ 17,879,588
65% of 75th Percentile	\$ 309,271	\$ 6,501,560	\$ 11,371,572	\$ 18,182,403	\$ 9,091,201
60% of 75th Percentile	\$ 96,353	\$ 2,380,820	\$ 4,595,647	\$ 7,072,820	\$ 3,536,410
50% of 75th Percentile	\$ 5,184	\$ 49,658	\$ 259,964	\$ 314,807	\$ 157,403
	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Statewide Total for 240 Days	Statewide Total for 120 Days
	Infants / Special Needs	Toddlers	Preschool Ages 3-5		
	INF, SPCR	TODD, 2YR	PR3, PR4, PR5		
Scenario 1:	\$ 13,395,346	\$ 47,554,556	\$ 34,796,628	\$ 95,746,530	\$ 47,873,265
Increase provider rates to bring all providers up to the 75th percentile for Infants, 85% of the 75th for Toddlers, and 75% of the 75th for Preschool 3-5.					
Additional Funds Needed to bring all up to the 75th Percentile	\$ -	\$ 42,293,617	\$ 95,935,435	\$ 138,229,052	\$ 69,114,526

Coalition

### Allocations

The Coalition Allocation for the School Readiness Provider Reimbursement Rate Increases is displayed below. The remaining \$2,126,735 will be allocated based on changes in enrollments.

**2021 Provider Rate Increases - Coalition Allocations**

Coalition	Infant	Special Needs	Toddler	2 Year Old	Preschool 3	Preschool 4	Preschool 5	Total
ELC of Alachua	\$ 57,358	\$ 1,291	\$ 188,287	\$ 175,896	\$ 23,040	\$ 6	\$ 900	\$ 446,778
ELC of the Big Bend Region	\$ 258,216	\$ -	\$ 336,014	\$ 429,507	\$ 381,647	\$ 371,807	\$ 156,852	\$ 1,934,042
ELC of Brevard	\$ 235,998	\$ 991	\$ 269,810	\$ 248,410	\$ 155,914	\$ 121,898	\$ 88,505	\$ 1,121,527
ELC of Broward	\$ 316,954	\$ 10,172	\$ 619,024	\$ 580,220	\$ 225,893	\$ 226,881	\$ 17,699	\$ 1,996,843
ELC of Duval	\$ 948,120	\$ 2,640	\$ 1,485,366	\$ 1,324,532	\$ 975,570	\$ 1,313,424	\$ 419,646	\$ 6,469,298
ELC of Emerald Coast	\$ 65,562	\$ -	\$ 52,680	\$ 64,535	\$ 6,730	\$ 3,672	\$ 3,019	\$ 196,198
ELC of Escambia	\$ 110,948	\$ -	\$ 38,911	\$ 94,909	\$ 1,096	\$ 2,560	\$ 436	\$ 248,858
ELC of Flagler and Volusia	\$ 242,959	\$ 9,168	\$ 358,415	\$ 437,881	\$ 281,556	\$ 204,282	\$ 82,854	\$ 1,617,115
ELC of Florida's Gateway	\$ 26,590	\$ -	\$ 34,266	\$ 92,994	\$ 44,088	\$ 39,372	\$ 33,642	\$ 270,951
ELC of Florida's Heartland	\$ 56,011	\$ 4,296	\$ 31,177	\$ 29,520	\$ 2,160	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,807	\$ 126,292
ELC of Hillsborough	\$ 647,572	\$ 6,631	\$ 769,987	\$ 1,841,484	\$ 1,202,896	\$ 1,010,723	\$ 351,425	\$ 5,830,717
ELC of Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee	\$ 161,730	\$ -	\$ 194,087	\$ 218,369	\$ 145,291	\$ 117,035	\$ 53,268	\$ 889,780
ELC of Lake	\$ 152,496	\$ 6,223	\$ 267,204	\$ 316,566	\$ 326,886	\$ 257,634	\$ 94,692	\$ 1,421,701
ELC of the Nature Coast	\$ 60,492	\$ -	\$ 75,312	\$ 138,697	\$ 71,674	\$ 77,470	\$ 59,894	\$ 483,538
ELC of Manatee	\$ 158,216	\$ -	\$ 241,216	\$ 299,056	\$ 207,385	\$ 162,796	\$ 51,436	\$ 1,120,104
ELC of Marion	\$ 133,913	\$ 3,762	\$ 158,722	\$ 173,179	\$ 132,960	\$ 93,496	\$ 47,550	\$ 743,581
ELC of Miami-Dade/Monroe	\$ 262,940	\$ -	\$ 257,054	\$ 343,373	\$ 103,259	\$ 12,904	\$ 6,173	\$ 985,703
ELC of North Florida	\$ 259,176	\$ 7,960	\$ 460,487	\$ 572,303	\$ 324,215	\$ 310,186	\$ 103,588	\$ 2,037,914
ELC of Northwest Florida	\$ 23,424	\$ -	\$ 8,193	\$ 40,328	\$ 14,910	\$ 12,960	\$ 7,635	\$ 107,450
ELC of Orange	\$ 294,635	\$ 13,830	\$ 1,209,287	\$ 1,609,799	\$ 935,933	\$ 789,378	\$ 312,456	\$ 5,165,317
ELC of Osceola County	\$ 139,331	\$ -	\$ 196,849	\$ 307,368	\$ 125,406	\$ 151,860	\$ 56,376	\$ 977,190
ELC of Palm Beach	\$ 549,341	\$ -	\$ 1,103,543	\$ 1,757,946	\$ 935,249	\$ 1,086,668	\$ 446,330	\$ 5,879,076
ELC of Pasco and Hernando	\$ 334,255	\$ -	\$ 382,325	\$ 763,395	\$ 436,742	\$ 365,286	\$ 152,255	\$ 2,434,258
ELC of Pinellas	\$ 268,130	\$ 1,392	\$ 409,210	\$ 484,397	\$ 20,360	\$ 1,902	\$ 9,316	\$ 1,194,707
ELC of Polk	\$ 265,116	\$ -	\$ 294,170	\$ 485,369	\$ 201,362	\$ 106,092	\$ 40,122	\$ 1,392,231
ELC of Santa Rosa	\$ 57,247	\$ -	\$ 56,484	\$ 50,460	\$ 7,514	\$ 13,126	\$ 1,944	\$ 186,775
ELC of Sarasota County	\$ 12,450	\$ -	\$ 3,808	\$ 25,215	\$ 1,584	\$ 45,276	\$ 52,739	\$ 141,072
ELC of Seminole	\$ 235,715	\$ -	\$ 234,469	\$ 310,742	\$ 18,750	\$ 34,628	\$ 18,500	\$ 852,804
ELC of Southwest Florida	\$ 184,195	\$ -	\$ 114,340	\$ 331,427	\$ 89,302	\$ 68,334	\$ 12,539	\$ 800,137
ELC of St. Lucie	\$ 98,215	\$ -	\$ 150,102	\$ 226,156	\$ 57,354	\$ 160,530	\$ 94,200	\$ 786,557
Redlands Christian Migrant Association	\$ 11,972	\$ 38	\$ -	\$ 2,448	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 290	\$ 14,749
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,629,278</b>	<b>\$ 68,395</b>	<b>\$ 10,000,797</b>	<b>\$ 13,776,481</b>	<b>\$ 7,456,724</b>	<b>\$ 7,163,503</b>	<b>\$ 2,778,087</b>	<b>\$ 47,873,265</b>

Coalitions negotiate with each provider a reimbursement rate based on the coalition's base reimbursement rate and the provider's private pay rate. It is estimated that over 5,500 School Readiness providers will benefit from these increases. It is important to note, that if the coalition's approved base reimbursement rate is higher than the percentages proposed, there will be no increase to these rates. However, there will not be any reductions in provider reimbursement rates.

### Impact for 2021-2022

An appropriation of \$100 million in CCDF funds will be needed to sustain these increases.