

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
March 17, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-4.610, Statewide Provider Contract for the School Readiness Program

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1001.213(2), Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Office of Early Learning (OEL) administers federal and state child care funds and partners with 30 local early learning coalitions to deliver comprehensive early learning services statewide. The office oversees three programs—the School Readiness Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program, and Child Care Resource and Referral services. OEL is required to submit its proposed rules to the State Board of Education for approval.

OEL is required to comply with lead agency responsibilities in the administration of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund. OEL must implement specific program eligibility requirements, which includes provider eligibility. Section 1002.82(2)(m), F.S., requires OEL to establish by rule a standard statewide provider contract to be used with each School Readiness provider. Rule 6M-4.610, F.A.C., establishes the standard statewide provider contract and contract provisions.

OEL amended the rule text, Statewide Provider Contract for the School Readiness Program, by 1) updating the form dates that will be applicable at the time the rule becomes effective and for the 2021-22 contract year and 2) removing the paragraph regarding ineligibility for multi-site providers and adding it to Form SR-20, Statewide Provider Contract for the School Readiness Program.

OEL amended Form OEL-SR 20, Statewide Provider Contract for the School Readiness Program, as follows:

- Added language to address program assessment eligibility for multi-site providers.
- Added a paragraph for eligibility to address E-verify requirements of s. 448.095, F.S., that were effective January 1, 2021.
- Revised a statutory reference related to health and safety.
- Added language to address quality improvement plans for multi-site providers.
- Added failure to abide by s. 448.095, F.S. as a basis for termination of cause.
- Revised termination for program assessment to reference the notification requirements defined in Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C.
- Added revocation of eligibility provisions for multi-site providers. OEL removed from the rule text and placed in this paragraph.
- Revised notification requirements for providers to report temporary closures and reopening.
- Added an electronic signature attestation.
- Added sites exempt from program assessment to Exhibit 1 of the contract.

- Added an indicator in exhibit 2 for the Migrant Head Start program.
- Added a requirement to submit an affidavit stating that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with an unauthorized alien for the current contract year.
- Removed teacher name from Exhibit 3 of the contract to reflect system functionality.
- Updated training requirements in Exhibit 3 of the contract.
- Added a chart outlining the VPK wrap reimbursement rate to Exhibit 5 of the contract.

There are no changes other than an update to the form dates for the OEL-SR 20A, Amendment to the Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract, OEL-SR 20L, Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract Licensed Provider Responsibilities, the OEL-SR 20LE, Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract License-Exempt Provider Responsibilities or the OEL-SR 20FFN, Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract Informal Responsibilities.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6M-4.610, F.A.C. Forms OEL-SR 20, Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract; OEL-SR 20A, Amendment to the Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract; OEL-SR 20L, Licensed Provider Responsibilities; OEL-SR LE, Licensed Exempt Provider Responsibilities; and OEL-SR 20FFN, Informal Provider Responsibilities

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning