First Responders & Health Care Workers: Access to Child Care

Webinar

April 6 & 7, 2020

www.floridaearlylearning.com
I. Background Information
   • Child care closures
   • Workgroups and discussions
   • Projected need for services

II. Access to School Readiness Services
   • Revision to at-risk definition
   • Referral process and DRAFT form and instructions
   • Funding

III. Local Collaboration Activities

IV. Increasing Child Care Options/Providers

V. Next Steps
Background Information

- First discussions with FL Hospital Association lobbyist and representatives from major hospitals
- Expanded to include PBA, FL Sheriffs and FL Police Chief’s Association
- Worked with directors from seven coalitions (Escambia, Flagler/Volusia, Lake, Miami-Dade, NW Florida, Pinellas and St. Lucie) to refine forms and process
- Projected needs are unknown

HIGH priority for OEL, DOE and Governor
• Revised definition of “at-risk” to include first responders and health care workers

• Eligibility includes birth – age 13 with NO INCOME limit

• Utilizing at-risk referral process with revised form and instructions
Access to Services

Instructions for Child Care Application and Authorization Form
for First Responder and Essential Health Care Participants (Declaration of Emergency Response)

INTRODUCTION

This form is intended to be the single referral and authorization form for child care services provided by the School Readiness child care program for families directly involved in the health care field relating to an emergency response. It is designed to be used by authorized employees of designated health care or first responder organizations and their associated programs.

CHILD CARE APPLICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

The person completing the form should state whether this is an initial authorization or a redetermination. The “FROM” section must clearly identify the organization sending the referral and authorizing child care. The person completing the form must also include the mailing address, city and ZIP code for the referring organization in this section.

SECTION A: FAMILY INFORMATION

| Employment: | Enter the name of the Parent/Guardian/Foster Parent/Caregiver’s employer. |
| Parent: | Enter Primary Parent/Guardian/Caregiver’s last and first name, DOB, demographics and marital status. |
| Secondary parent: | Enter Secondary Parent/Guardian/Caregiver’s last and first name, DOB, demographics and marital status. |
| Mailing address: | Enter the family’s mailing address and phone number(s) as appropriate. |
| Child(ren): | For children authorized to receive care, enter the selected child care provider, last and first name, date of birth and demographics. Use the CLARIFYING COMMENTS section if there are more than three children for one referral. |
| Applicant: | Applicant (if available) must sign and date in the space provided. |
| Signature: | |

SECTION B: ELIGIBILITY

| Health Care Participant: | This refers to the client’s purpose for care. Check the appropriate box: First Responder or Essential Health Care Personnel. |
| Verification documents: | Check the appropriate box if the parent has verification of the child(ren)’s citizenship or child(ren)’s age and attach the applicable documentation to the referral. |
| Comments: | Enter additional comments pertaining to application information, if applicable. |
### AUTHORIZATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours authorized:</th>
<th>Enter in the spaces provided the total hours per week that the organization has authorized child care based on the parent’s prescribed work activities and the hours allotted for reasonable transportation time.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates:</td>
<td>Enter the starting and ending dates for the authorized child care period. The organization must send a redetermination authorization to the coalition prior to the end of the initial referral if the family remains eligible. Services for the referred families may be requested in increments of three months or less for First Responder or Essential Health Care Participants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AUTHORIZING REFERRAL AGENCY SIGNATURE

| Authorizing referral agency signature: | Referring organization (agency) must sign and date the referral on the date of authorization. The referral is NOT VALID if it is not signed by an authorized representative. |

### SECTION C: COALITION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

| Coalition staff signature: | A coalition staff person must print his or her name, sign and date the referral in the space provided. The date must reflect the date received. The coalition's staff must offer services to the children referred within 3 business days from receipt of a valid referral in accordance with the Early Learning Grant Agreement. |

Instructions for Form OEL-FR/HCW, Child Care Application and Authorization Form, Declaration of Emergency Response, March 2020
Referral Process

Child Care Application and Authorization

- First responders and essential workers will be able to obtain a CCAA form from their Human Resources office.
• Families that receive the CCAA will create an account in the Family Portal OR contact their early learning coalition for assistance
Referral Process

• Families that receive the CCAA will create an account in the Family Portal OR contact their early learning coalition for assistance.

• Coalitions will have THREE (3) business days to review and approve the application.
Referral Process

- OEL has provided a guidance document to help assist first responders on the application process.
- Coalitions are asked to update the bottom of the document with their contact information.
• Families are able to bypass the income qualifications if they have a CCAA Referral form
• EFS Mod will ask if the family has a Child Care Application and Authorization during the prequalification process
Referral Process

• Families will be prompted to continue their application
Effective April 1, 2020

- SR Reimbursement rate based on care level
- Parent copayments are waived
- Proposed bonus/Incentives of $500/month/child
- Based on groups of 10 (8 children, 2 adults)
  - Maximum $4,000 per provider/month
  - Maximum $12,000 over three months
Local Collaboration

• Surveyed coalitions on March 25th
  • Contacting local hospitals and the EOC
  • Working with other organizations (i.e., United Way, Chambers, YMCA, community groups, local government, etc.)
  • Offering CCR&R information and personalized lists of open child care centers
Discussion

• Local outreach activities
• Local level of need
Increasing Child Care Options

• Contacts with open SR providers
• Listing of providers offering
  o Weekend care
  o Night care
  o 24/7 care
  o 21st Century Programs not on public sites
• Others?
Increasing Child Care Options

Discussion
Next Steps

• Announce availability of program/services
• State-level and local outreach activities
• Disseminate Q&As (general for applicants; one for providers)
• Bi-weekly status updates
• Other
Next Steps

- Incentive
- Healthcare
- First responders
  - First responders
  - Childcare
  - Incentive
  - State-level
- Healthcare
- Workers
Questions?

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