Update on 2020-2021 School Year

Closing Achievement Gaps and Creating Safe Spaces for Learning
April 2020: 58.3% of SR and VPK Providers were Closed
March 2021: Only 0.8% of SR and VPK Providers are Closed
August 2020: VPK Enrollments Less than 50% of 2019-2020
March 2021: VPK Enrollments About 78% of 2019-2020
# 2020-EO-07: Family Choices, Full Services for At-Risk Students, Financial Certainties and Education Interventions

**EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2020-EO-07**

**What stays the same?**

- Continues full parental choice. While in-person education is steadily increasing, some families will still need flexibility for the spring semester due to medical vulnerabilities.
- Continues financial flexibility and stability for school districts and charter schools.
- Continues flexibilities for state scholarship students at private schools.
- Continues guarantee of full panoply of services for at-risk students.
- Continues requirement to progress monitor students.

**Spring 2021 Improvements:**

- Requires educational interventions for students who may be falling behind, especially Florida’s most vulnerable students.
- Rewards school districts and public charter schools that have exceeded their projected enrollment.

**Follows recommendations from the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) and School Districts’ Finance Officers.**
K-12 Public School Students are Shifting to In-Person Learning

October 2020 Final
- 53.9% FT In-Person
- 65% FT & PT In-Person
- 43.4% Innovative
- 2.7% FT Virtual

February 2021 Preliminary
- 67.7% FT In-Person
- 80% FT & PT In-Person
- 30.0% Innovative
- 2.3% FT Virtual
Disproportionate Percentages of At-Risk Students are Still Utilizing Innovative (Distance) Learning Modalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Category</th>
<th>Final Survey 2</th>
<th>Preliminary Survey 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>Innovative (Code I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLORIDA</td>
<td>2,791,687</td>
<td>1,211,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>1,016,869</td>
<td>287,631</td>
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<td>Black or African American</td>
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<td>Hispantc/Latino</td>
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<td>Free/Reduced Lunch</td>
<td>1,517,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Free/Reduced Lunch</td>
<td>1,274,007</td>
<td>505,820</td>
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<td>Students with Disability</td>
<td>406,944</td>
<td>166,404</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Students with Disability</td>
<td>2,384,743</td>
<td>1,045,451</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: This report uses standard school exclusions that exclude McKay (3518), Family Empowerment (3900), Contracted Residential Services (9045), and schools greater than 9900 from the overall enrollment counts.
K-12 Districts and Schools’ Increased Costs and Challenges

Many for Routine Activities

- Transportation
- Teaching Workforce
- Food Services
- Progress Monitoring and Interventions
- Technology
- Curriculum
- Utilities
- Custodial
- Unemployment Claims
- Revenue Declines
Rapid Credentials Value-Add for Florida’s Recovery

- To date, these short term and high value credentialing programs across our state colleges and technical colleges, targeting COVID-19 impacted residents in need of an immediate credential of value, are making tremendous contributions to Florida’s recovery:
  - Over 6,000 completers with nearly 8,000 earned industry recognized credentials/credentials of value;
  - Over 11,000 residents currently enrolled with anticipated completion in May;
  - Over $300,000 worth of earned advertisement value, with over 12 million residents reached; and

- The unmeasured return on investment exists also in the ability of institutions to expand associated workforce education and training programs as a result.
U.S. DOE Invitation to States to Request Waivers for the 2020-2021 School Year

- U.S. DOE’s February 22 letter articulates the shared values for the role that assessments and accountability have in ensuring equity in opportunity for our students.
- In this year of recovery, assessments ensure equity and directly inform curriculum and instruction for Florida’s millions of at-risk students.

- 72% count on schools for at least 1, often 2, meals daily
- 64% minority: 34.9% Hispanic; 21.5% Black/African American
- 63% economically disadvantaged
- 63% of Americans cannot telework
- 15% have special needs (disabilities)
- 10% are English Language Learners (ELLs)
- 1% homeless
The Need to Measure Students’ Growth and Progress

- Applying for the federal waiver would NOT mean that Florida would stop using this important information:
  - The results of assessments help identify students who need specialized supports.
  - The results also determine when students elevate out of specialized supports and return to fully inclusive instruction with their peers.
  - The results also help teachers modify instructional delivery to support students’ individual needs and help them meet their unique growth goals.

- To date, more than 1,000,000 state assessments have already been safely administered, statewide, since Summer of 2020. Moreover, schools have safely administered nearly 6,000,000 progress monitoring assessments to date.
The Waiver is Consistent with Florida’s Sovereignty

We have been very clear, publicly, for months that Florida needs to continuing measuring students’ growth and progress.

We would apply for this waiver to maximize Florida’s sovereignty in making these decisions.

Only Floridians are going to look out for Florida and this gives Florida ownership of looking after our children’s education.

We know many schools will not meet the 95% assessment requirement in federal and state law. This waiver would remove federal intrusion in making subsequent decisions.
February 15, Commissioner Corcoran signed 2021-EO-01, in continued collaboration with and feedback from Florida’s school district superintendents, to afford districts and schools longer windows of time for Spring 2021 state testing to ensure that school districts can continue to safely administer assessments with social distancing.

2021-EO-01 was consistent with health and safety flexibilities that FDOE previously provided to support districts and schools:

- Fall 2020 FSA and NGSSS EOC testing window was extended.
- Fall 2020 ELA Retake testing window was extended.
- Winter 2020 FSA and NGSSS EOC testing window was extended.
- Spring 2021 FSA Algebra 1 EOC and ELA Retake testing window was extended.
- The ACCESS for ELLs testing window was extended.