

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
March 30, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-10.001, Gold Seal Quality Care Program and Rule 6M-10.002, Gold Seal Quality Care Accrediting Associations

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1002.945, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) is required to comply with lead agency responsibilities in the administration of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund (45 CFR 98.10 and s. 1002.82, F.S.). The department adopts and amends rules to develop and implement a quality rating system for child care providers which will provide financial incentives and other supports to improve the quality of services provided in accordance with 45 CFR 98.53 and s. 1002.945, F.S.

The rule is being amended to comply with statutory requirements within s. 1002.945, F.S., by establishing a process to verify that an accrediting association meets the provisions of s. 1002.945(3)(a), F.S., which must include an auditing program and any other procedures that may reasonably determine an accrediting association's compliance with this section. The department shall also establish procedures for conferring and revoking designations of Gold Seal Quality Care Providers by establishing definitions related to the Gold Seal Quality Care Program; the eligibility criteria for child care facilities, family day care homes, and large family child care homes to obtain a Gold Seal designation; and enforcement criteria if providers fail to uphold specific requirements to maintain the Gold Seal designation. Rules 6M-10.001 and 6M-10.002, F.A.C., incorporate by reference all required documents: the provider application, the accrediting association application, child care facility standards, family day care home standards, child care facility evaluation manual, family day care home evaluation manual, the review process and procedure guide, and an annual self-assessment survey.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rules 6M-10.001, and 6M-10.002, F.A.C. Form DEL-GS01; Form DEL-GS02; Form DEL-GS03; Form DEL-GS04; Form DEL-GS05; Form DEL-GS06; Form DEL-GS07; and Form DEL-GS08 (under separate cover)

**Facilitator:** Matthew Mears, Chancellor, Division of Early Learning