

School Readiness Match Report

DECEMBER 1, 2024



DIVISION OF
Early Learning

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Background

The School Readiness (SR) Program supports low-income working families by providing their children access to outcome-focused early education programs. The SR Program allows parents to work and give their children a successful start in school and life. Families may qualify for the SR Program if their income is at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level and does not exceed 85 percent of the state median income.

The 2019 Legislature revised how local match contributions are collected and reported for the expansion of SR program services, which has come to be known as the SR Match Program. [Specific Appropriation 81 of Chapter 2024-231, Laws of Florida](#), provided to the Florida Department of Education/Division of Early Learning (DEL) by the 2024 Legislature, released \$30 million in Child Care and Development Trust Fund (CCDF) budget authority to expand services to low-income families at or below 70 percent of the state median income as long as the income does not exceed 85 percent of the state median income. The SR Match Program ensures the Department remains in compliance with federal match requirements.

The SR Match Program enables the state's 30 early learning coalitions (ELCs) and the Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) to work with public and private businesses to match federal funding on a dollar-for-dollar basis with contributions from local governments, charitable foundations and private businesses that want to help provide child care services to participating families. This effectively doubles the funding available for early education and care for working families in these communities and creates local partnerships focused on using state and local funds for direct services and expanding the number of child care slots.

Requirement for this Legislative Report

[Specific Appropriation 81 of Chapter 2024-231, Laws of Florida](#)

The Division of Early Learning shall provide a report to the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the chair of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee by December 1, 2024, that includes the following information about the division's allocation of the \$30,000,000 in local matching funds provided in Specific Appropriation 77 of chapter 2023-239, Laws of Florida: (1) the amount of funds allocated to each early learning coalition and a breakdown, by coalition, of the amount of funds expended by the coalition on direct services and the amount expended by the coalition on expanding school readiness slots, and (2) the total number of school readiness slots funded by each early learning coalition with the local matching funds.

The purpose of this report is to provide the above information.

2023-24 Allocations to Early Learning Coalitions

For fiscal year 2023-24, 28 of the 30 ELCs and RCMA participated in the SR Match Program. The amount of funds allocated to each coalition, the amount expended on direct services and on expanding SR slots, and the estimated total number of SR slots funded with local matching funds are displayed in the following table. These amounts are pending final expenditure reconciliations as part of the fiscal year close-out activities.

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FY 2023-24 School Readiness Match Expenditure Report Specific Appropriation 77 - Chapter 2023-239, Laws of Florida

Coalition	Total Amount Allocated ¹	Direct Services State (CCDF) Match Expenditures Invoiced to DEL as of 10/28/24 ²	Direct Services Local Match Expenditures Reported to DEL as of 10/22/24 ²	Total Direct Services Expenditures from State and Local Match Funds ²	Non-Direct Local Match Expenditures Used to Expand Child Care Slots Reported to DEL as of 10/22/24 ²	Number of Children Funded from Local Match Funds ³
ELC of Alachua County	\$ 81,250	\$ 81,248	\$ 81,251	\$ 162,499	\$ -	196
ELC of the Big Bend Region	\$ 76,606	\$ 281	\$ 40,245	\$ 40,526	\$ -	3,043
ELC of Brevard	\$ 256,324	\$ 245,825	\$ 288,351	\$ 534,176	\$ -	89
ELC of Broward County	\$ 5,556,282	\$ 5,556,282	\$ 7,287,935	\$ 12,844,217	\$ -	5,339
ELC of Duval	\$ 2,669,213	\$ 2,669,211	\$ 1,574,240	\$ 4,243,452	\$ 1,500,045	887
ELC of Escambia County	\$ 167,886	\$ 167,065	\$ 250,898	\$ 417,963	\$ -	216
ELC of Flagler and Volusia Counties	\$ 254,832	\$ 240,781	\$ 351,246	\$ 592,028	\$ -	4,718
ELC of Florida's Gateway	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0
ELC of Florida's Heartland	\$ 165,354	\$ 165,351	\$ 164,054	\$ 329,405	\$ 9,665	1,655
ELC of Hillsborough County	\$ 1,462,818	\$ 1,462,557	\$ 1,291,607	\$ 2,754,164	\$ -	3,216
ELC of Indian River, Martin, and Okeechobee	\$ 114,187	\$ 17,113	\$ 17,215	\$ 34,328	\$ -	74
ELC of Lake County	\$ 51,951	\$ 18,896	\$ 19,101	\$ 37,997	\$ -	248
ELC of Manatee County	\$ 1,261,970	\$ 1,261,751	\$ 1,013,988	\$ 2,275,739	\$ 254,027	905
ELC of Marion County	\$ 160,101	\$ 156,408	\$ 170,137	\$ 326,545	\$ -	474
ELC of Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties	\$ 3,023,242	\$ 3,023,242	\$ 2,849,932	\$ 5,873,174	\$ 24,696	902
ELC of the Nature Coast	\$ 7,500	\$ 6,641	\$ 7,040	\$ 13,681	\$ -	27
ELC of North Florida	\$ 167,352	\$ 163,510	\$ 228,967	\$ 392,477	\$ -	3,766
ELC of Northwest Florida	\$ 170,271	\$ 170,271	\$ 245,889	\$ 416,160	\$ -	214
ELC of Okaloosa and Walton Counties	\$ 81,925	\$ 65,293	\$ 72,742	\$ 138,034	\$ -	186
ELC of Orange County	\$ 1,993,484	\$ 1,993,484	\$ 3,736,242	\$ 5,729,726	\$ -	2,473
ELC of Osceola	\$ 170,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 227,613	\$ 397,613	\$ -	387
ELC of Palm Beach County	\$ 9,256,778	\$ 9,041,450	\$ 9,256,680	\$ 18,298,130	\$ -	16,677
ELC of Pasco and Hernando Counties	\$ 2,844	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0
ELC of Pinellas	\$ 921,866	\$ 910,795	\$ 1,022,770	\$ 1,933,565	\$ -	945
ELC of Polk County	\$ 174,847	\$ 174,666	\$ 175,899	\$ 350,566	\$ -	113
ELC of Santa Rosa	\$ 32,552	\$ 32,552	\$ 46,800	\$ 79,352	\$ -	915
ELC of Sarasota	\$ 292,128	\$ 287,119	\$ 281,393	\$ 568,512	\$ -	273
ELC of Seminole County	\$ 311,851	\$ 311,850	\$ 311,902	\$ 623,751	\$ -	493
ELC of Southwest Florida	\$ 415,114	\$ 257,086	\$ 738,674	\$ 995,760	\$ -	845
ELC of St. Lucie	\$ 388,330	\$ 388,323	\$ 410,412	\$ 798,735	\$ -	3,588
RCMA	\$ 311,142	\$ 202,956	\$ 108,186	\$ 720,432	\$ -	1,226
Grand Total	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 29,242,007	\$ 32,680,698	\$ 61,922,705	\$ 1,788,432	54,090

¹ FY 2023-24 Notices of Awards.

² DEL SR Expenditure Workbooks FY 2023-24 as of 10/22/24; DEL SR Expenditure Workbooks FY 2024-25 as of 10/28/24 for prior year expenditures. All expenditures for FY 2023-24 are within the service period 7/1/23 through 6/30/24. This does not reflect final expenditure reconciliations.

³ From Enhanced Field System (EFS) Modernization payment data as of October 23, 2024, in 'Paid' status; Reporting Period closed on 10/22/24. Children were counted if they had a net positive match amount for the period, 7/1/23 through 6/30/24. More specifically, children were counted if they were funded at any point throughout the period with local match funds, no duplicates. No data reported for the ELC of Florida's Gateway and ELC of Pasco and Hernando Counties.