

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
May 14, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-4.500, Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1001.02(1), (2)(n), 1002.79, F.S.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Division of Early Learning 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 (SR) Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program, and Child Care Resource and Referral services.

Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C., outlines the procedures for reporting attendance and making payments to providers that serve children in the SR Program. The rule also outlines provisions for increased financial incentive payments for SR Program providers that offer higher quality care for enrolled children. The proposed amendments to the rule add additional eligibility criteria for SR providers to obtain and maintain a special needs differential provider reimbursement payment to comply with requirements set in Chapter 2025-105, Laws of Florida. Amendments also add eligibility criteria for reimbursement for a staff training day and clarify requirements for SR providers to obtain quality program differentials. Changes align with federal and state statutory requirements.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C.

Facilitator/Presenter: Cari Miller, Chancellor, Division of Early Learning