



Weekly Memo



Rule Activity

Notice of Rule Development

To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rule, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-6.0571](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Career and Technical Education and Adult General Education Standards and Industry-Driven Benchmarks

Events Coming Soon

Florida Educators of Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (FEDHH) Conference

The 2025 FEDHH Conference, themed *From Beepers to Breakthroughs: Evolving Access in Deaf Education*, will take place in Gainesville on **November 7 and 8, 2025**. This year's event features a 1990s theme and will bring together educators and professionals dedicated to improving outcomes for students who are DHH. We are excited to announce June Ann Lefors, director of the American Sign Language Program at Flagler College, as the keynote speaker. Registration is now open, with a special discount available for those who register by **November 1, 2025**. Attendees are encouraged to book accommodations by **October 6, 2025**, to receive the special FEDHH conference rate. Visit the [FEDHH website](#) for registration and conference information.

Save the Date – 2026 Prekindergarten (Pre-K) Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Contacts' Conference

Prekindergarten Exceptional Student Education (PESE) Technical Assistance and Training System, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-funded state project, is pleased to announce the 2026 Pre-K ESE Contacts' Conference focusing on Indicator 12. The conference will be held on **February 26 and 27, 2026**, in Wesley Chapel. For questions, contact your PESE regional facilitator at [PESE Regions and Regional Facilitators](#).

Resiliency Florida Characteristic of the Month—Citizenship

Starting in the 2019-20 school year, every Florida public school was required to annually provide children in grades 6-12 at least five hours of mental health instruction. This mental health instruction is now referred to as Resiliency Education, Civic and Character Education and Life Skills Education. The Resiliency Florida initiative for Florida schools was launched in February 2021 to emphasize 11 Resiliency characteristics to empower students to persevere and overcome life's inevitable challenges. Visit the [Resiliency Florida](#) website for more information and additional resources.

October's featured characteristic is Citizenship, which means helping your neighbor, community and nation. Visit the following web pages for grade-specific parent and teacher resources pertaining to Citizenship.

- [K-2 Parent Resource](#)
- [3-5 Parent Resource](#)
- [6-8 Parent Resource](#)
- [9-12 Parent Resource](#)
- [K-2 Teacher Guide](#)
- [3-5 Teacher Guide](#)
- [6-8 Teacher Guide](#)
- [9-12 Teacher Guide](#)

BEESS Contacts for Updates to Local Educational Agency (LEA) ESE Staff

BEESS requests ESE directors to contact the following BEESS staff for updates to staff contacts:

- Program Accountability, Assessment & Data Systems ShareFile: Del Caceres at Deliris.Caceres@fldoe.org
- Dispute Resolution and Monitoring ShareFile: Aubrey Willis at Aubrey.Willis@fldoe.org
- ESE Directors' listserv: Department of Education – BEESS at DOEBEESS@fldoe.org

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS) 20th Anniversary Rebranding

In celebration of TATS's 20th anniversary, BEESS and TATS are excited to announce a fresh new look coming in October 2025. The IDEA-funded state project formerly known as TATs will have a new name, logo and website. The updated name represents TATS's continued commitment to supporting the education of exceptional prekindergarten students and ensuring access to high-quality supports for programs that serve prekindergarten children with disabilities. While their name has changed, TATS's dedication to innovation, collaboration, and impact remains stronger than ever. See the attached flyer for details and information about the changes being made.

- Filename: PESE Introduction Flyer with Emails

Parent Pamphlet: Frequently Asked Questions about AP-AAAS and Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA)

The FDOE has released a pamphlet for parents that addresses frequently asked questions regarding AP-AAAS and FAA. To view the pamphlet, go to [Parent Pamphlet: FAQs about AP-AAAS and FAA](#).

New BEESS Team Members

Hope Florida Unit

BEESS is pleased to welcome Ms. Garnese Eccleston to the Hope Navigator Unit. Ms. Eccleston attended Florida State University and holds two degrees in criminology. She began her career in social work at the Florida Department of Children and Families as a child protective investigator. In that role, Ms. Eccleston felt great satisfaction in being able to help children who were exposed to abuse and/or neglect, as well as assist families to connect with the necessary resources. Ms. Eccleston is looking forward to working with BEESS in her new capacity.

Tip of the Week

Provide Layered Support to Prevent Special Educator Burnout

To help retain special educators, implement strategies and supports to minimize burnout. This may include proactive check-ins, office hours, weekly problem-solving sessions, monthly professional community meetings or instructional coaches. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief

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**New
Name!**



**New
Logo!**

**Prekindergarten Exceptional Student Education
Technical Assistance & Training System**

This updated name represents their continued commitment to supporting prekindergarten exceptional student education and ensuring access to high-quality supports for programs that serve prekindergarten children with disabilities.

Visit the new website: www.pese.ucf.edu

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