

Early Learning Coalitions and RCMA

DEL governs the day-to-day operations of early learning programs and administers federal and state child care funds statewide. It partners with 30 regional early learning coalitions (ELCs) and the Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) to deliver of local services. Whether you want to apply for School Readiness or Voluntary Prekindergarten or receive information about other early education resources, the place to start is with your local ELC or RCMA.

To find your local coalition or RCMA office, visit:
<https://www.floridaearlylearning.com/parents/coalitions> or <https://rcma.org>.

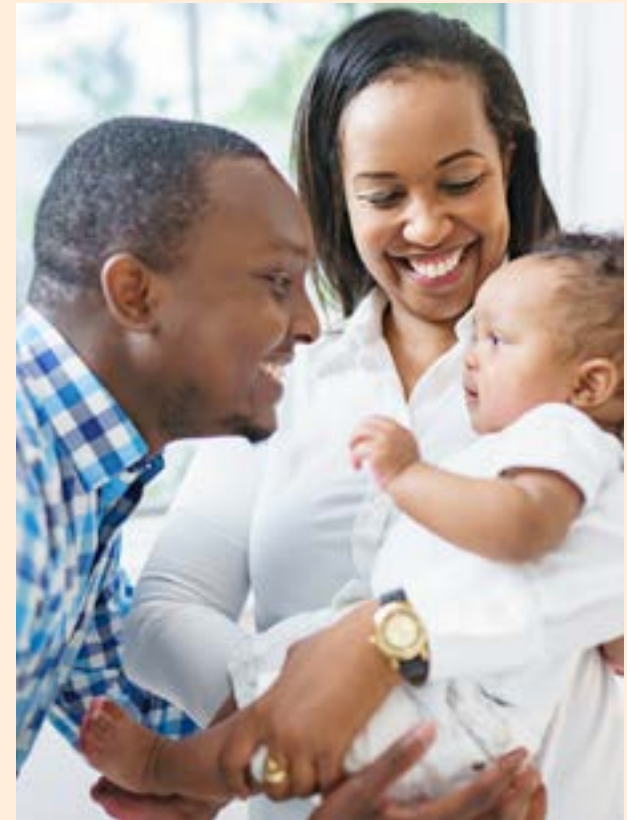


Division of Early Learning's Child Care Resource and Referral Network

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Division of Early Learning Programs



DIVISION OF Early Learning

LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

www.floridaearlylearning.com



The Florida Department of Education's Division of Early Learning (DEL) is dedicated to ensuring access to affordable, high-quality child care and early learning for the state's children and families. DEL partners with 30 local early learning coalitions and the Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA) to deliver three programs – Child Care Resource and Referral, School Readiness, and Voluntary Prekindergarten education services. DEL also works collaboratively with Early Head Start and Head Start to maximize early learning options for families.

For more information, visit the DEL website www.floridaearlylearning.com.

To apply for programs, visit: <https://familyservices.floridaearlylearning.com>.

Early Head Start and Head Start

The Early Head Start program serves infants, toddlers, and pregnant women and the Head Start preschool program primarily serves 3- and 4-year-old children. Your local early learning coalition's CCR&R program can connect you with your local Head Start & Early Head Start locations.

For more information, visit: <https://www.floridaearlylearning.com/statewide-initiatives/head-start>.

Child Care Resource and Referral

The first years of your child's life are when the brain makes connections that help your child think, learn, and behave. As your child's first teacher, you can prepare your child for success in life.

Whether you need help finding quality child care, information on early learning programs or other family assistance, you can turn to Child Care Resource and Referral Services (CCR&R) offered by your local early learning coalition. CCR&R can also connect you with consumer education information and other local community resources such as medical care, workforce support, housing assistance, creative financial assistance options for child care and more.

For more information, visit: <https://www.floridaearlylearning.com/parents/family-resources/child-care-resource-referral>.



School Readiness

While helping children prepare for school, the School Readiness (SR) program offers financial assistance to help children from low-income families to receive high quality child care. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be working or participating in an education activity for at least 20 hours per week and be at or below 150 percent federal poverty level for their family size.

Other children may be eligible if they have special needs or are at risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment, or if their parents are homeless, victims of domestic violence or are low-income migrant families or farm workers.

For more information, visit: www.floridaearlylearning.com/school-readiness.

Voluntary Prekindergarten

Florida was one of the first states in the country to offer free Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK). Children living in Florida and who turned 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 are eligible. Parents can postpone enrolling their child until the following year when their child is 5 years old if the child's fourth birthday falls Feb. 2 through Sept. 1 in a calendar year

Families can apply for VPK by providing documentation of their Florida residency and their child's date of birth.

For more information, visit: <https://www.floridaearlylearning.com/vpk>.