

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
July 16, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-9.115, Procedures and Criteria for Approval of School Readiness Plans

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1002.85, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) administers federal and state child care funds and partners with 30 local early learning coalitions to deliver comprehensive early learning services statewide. The division oversees three programs—the School Readiness Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program, and Child Care Resource and Referral services. DEL is required to submit its proposed rules to the State Board of Education for approval.

DEL is required to comply with lead agency responsibilities in the administration of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust Fund. Rule 6M-9.115, F.A.C., prescribes, as statutorily mandated by Section 1002.85, F.S., a standardized format and required content of school readiness program plans as necessary for a coalition to administer the program. The statute sets forth select required minimum elements as well as a requirement that the plan must be submitted to DEL every three years before the expenditure of funds.

The Division of Early Learning revised the current rule text to make technical changes and revises the review period of a coalition’s SR plan to comply with Senate Bill (SB) 7004, effective July 1, 2024. Revisions also include clarification of coalition submission requirements and DEL review procedures. DEL is amending the Form DEL-SR 115, Early Learning Coalition School Readiness Plan Guide, as incorporated by reference, to add clarifying provisions for submitting plans and amendments to the department and remove coalition responsibilities to submit an annual sliding fee scale to DEL for approval and a provider reimbursement rate schedule as enacted in House Bill (HB) 5101, effective July 1, 2024. HB 5101 and SB 7004 revise DEL and coalition requirements found in ss. 1002.82, 1002.84(9), and 1002.85, F.S., which directly impact the content of the early learning coalition plan describing program administration and compliance. DEL is further amending Form DEL-SR 115 to make technical changes throughout the form and to add requirements for a coalition to post the issued fee scale and coalition copayment waiver policy to its website to comply with federal requirements in 45 Code of Federal Regulations section 98.33(a)(8). Changes also update required content to be included within a coalition’s program assessment policy.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6M-9.115, F.A.C. Form DEL SR-115; School Readiness Plan Guide and Template (under separate cover)

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