



Weekly Memo

Action Items

25th Anniversary Family Café

The 25th Anniversary Family Café will be on **June 9-11, 2023**, in Orlando, and online registration will be open on **February 14, 2023**. Individuals with disabilities or their family members may register at no cost. There is also a special conference rate for hotel reservations. For more information, go to the [Family Café website](#) and view the Family Café brochure.

Commissioner's Academic Challenge (CAC)

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has issued a [memorandum regarding the CAC](#), which will be on **April 21-23, 2023**. The 2023 CAC Intent to Participate Form must be submitted by **February 17, 2023**, per the instructions in the memo.

2023 Healthy Schools Summer Academy Call for Presenters

The FDOE has issued a [memorandum regarding the 2023 Healthy Schools Summer Academy](#), which will be on **June 14-15, 2023**, and [attachment A, titled Proposed HSSA Breakout Session Topics](#). The documentation to participate must be submitted by **February 24, 2023**, per the instructions in the memo.

Identifying 2022-23 Exceptional Student Education Center Schools for School Accountability

The FDOE has issued a [memorandum regarding identifying 2022-23 exceptional student education center schools for school accountability](#) and [attachment A, titled Bureau of Accountability Reporting: ESE Center School Identification for Accountability Purposes](#). Confirmations and requested changes must be submitted by **February 24, 2023**, per the instructions in the memo.

Working With the Experts: Visually Impaired – Assistive Technology

The Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) is offering “Working With the Experts – VI: Technology Walkabout,” on **March 30-31, 2023**, in Tallahassee. Join experts from the Center for Assistive Technology Training, American Printing House for the Blind, and Vispero to learn about current and new technologies and practices. For more information and to register and make hotel reservations, go to the [FIMC-VI Working with the Experts Spring 2023 web page](#). For questions, contact [Andrea Wallace](#) or [Tiffany Conrad](#).

Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) Summer Institute 2023

The Florida CASE would like to invite you to our upcoming Summer Leadership Institute, which will be in Bonita Springs on **June 12-14, 2023**. The theme this year is “25 Years of Focused Leadership for Students with Disabilities.” To register, go to the [Florida CASE registration web page](#). The deadline to make hotel reservations is **May 20, 2023**, or until the group block is fully booked. To make hotel reservations, go to the [Florida CASE hotel reservation web page](#). For questions, contact [Dr. Rosalind Hall](#).

Save the Date—2023 Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Professional Development Summer Conference

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS), a discretionary project of the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), is pleased to announce the Pre-K ESE Professional Development Summer Conference on **June 12-13, 2023**, in Ocala. This conference will focus on instructional strategies within classroom routines and activities to promote engagement and enhanced learning. This conference is in support of the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Federal Part B Indicator 7 (Preschool Outcomes). The target audience for the summer conference is the districts’ Pre-K contacts and one Pre-K teacher or Pre-K classroom coach/resource teacher. Registration information will be available soon. Please contact your [TATS Regional Facilitator](#) if you have any questions.

Informational Items

Position Available in Student Support Services, BEESS

Student Support Services is seeking a support staff assistant for its office at the FDOE in Tallahassee. The support staff position is responsible for phone support, communication, disseminating information to stakeholders, and providing support to consultants within the Student Support Services Project and the FDOE. The position is funded through the Student Support Services Project, a federal grant allocation funded through the University of South Florida. To view the complete job description and to apply, go to the [Student Support Services Project web page](#). For questions, contact [Andrew Weatherill](#) or by phone at 850-245-7851.

Positions Available in the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

VR is a division of the FDOE whose mission is to assist people with disabilities, ages 14 and older, in securing competitive, integrated employment. Each year VR supports over 5,000 Floridians in finding gainful employment leading to better outcomes for families, communities and the Florida economy. VR is hiring vocational rehabilitation technicians, counselors and senior counselors across the state. For more information, see the attached document. To view the open positions and apply, go to [FDOE’s Careers web page](#).

- Filename: VR is Hiring Flyer

Position Available for Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) Facilitator at Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Island Coast Associate Center

FIN is a discretionary project funded by the FDOE, Division of Public Schools, BEESS, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B. The FIN facilitator will work in a regional capacity to serve the following school districts in Region 5: Broward, Collier, FAU Lab School, KIPP Miami, Mater Academy Charter, Miami-Dade, Monroe,

Lee, Palm Beach and South Tech. To view the full job description, go to the [Specialist, Exceptional Student Education \(Florida Inclusion Network\) web page](#). To apply, go to the [School District of Lee County Careers web page](#). For questions, contact [Dr. Deidre Phillips](#), FDLRS Island Coast Coordinator. To learn more about FIN, go to the [FIN website](#).

Position Available for Inclusive Education Specialist with the FIN Administration Project

FIN is a discretionary project funded by the FDOE, Division of Public Schools, BEESS, through federal assistance under the IDEA, Part B. The inclusive education specialist will work with the FIN Administration team to provide support to FIN facilitators and other stakeholders across the state to facilitate building capacity sessions and job-embedded professional development to strengthen and sustain best practices and universal supports for students with disabilities in inclusive settings. To apply, go to the [Florida State University's Office of Human Resources careers web page](#). For questions, contact JaSheena Ekhaton or Kelly Claude, executive co-directors at LSI-FinAdmin@fsu.edu. To learn more about FIN, go to the [FIN website](#).

FIMC-VI Professional Development Opportunity

The Florida and Virgin Islands Deaf-Blind Collaborative (FAVI) and FIMC-VI have collaborated to create a new self-paced, independent learning opportunity using materials developed by the National Center on Deaf-Blindness. These are professional development modules for practitioners who want to improve their knowledge of deaf-blindness and gain practical skills that are essential for working with students who are deaf-blind. The intended audience is teachers from a variety of areas (e.g., special education, visual impairment, deaf/hard of hearing, and severe/multiple disabilities), related service providers and administrators. Participants may earn 14 inservice credit hours if approved by your school district. To register, go to the [FIMC-VI Canvas Resource Site and Course Sign-Up web page](#). For questions, contact [Tiffany Conrad](#).

Jessica Brattain
Bureau Chief



For more information, contact
850-245-0475

We Are Hiring!



Join a profession that helps individuals with disabilities find meaningful employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

VR is a division of Florida's Department of Education whose mission is to assist people with disabilities, ages 14 and older, in securing competitive, integrated employment. Each year we support over 5,000 Floridians in finding gainful employment leading to better outcomes for families, communities and the Florida economy.

Our mission is to help individuals with disabilities find, maintain or advance in employment, and enhance their independence. We want to become the first place individuals with disabilities turn to when seeking employment and a top resource for employers in need of qualified employees.

How VR Serves People with Disabilities

Anyone, regardless of disability type, may be referred to VR and for VR services. If a person is found eligible, our agency provides guidance and counseling related to employment and disability; helps customers identify career goals and services; and connects customers to job exploration opportunities and placements.

Careers with Us

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is hiring Vocational Rehabilitation Technicians, Counselors and Senior Counselors across the state.

To apply go to <https://jobs.myflorida.com/go/Department-of-Education/2817200/> or scan the QR code below.



About Working for VR

Technicians



Vocational Rehabilitation Technicians are the para-professionals that assist VR Counselors with casework by communicating with customers and vendors, coordinating payments and purchases and providing administrative support for offices. As a technician, you'll help people with disabilities find work by facilitating the rehabilitation process!

Counselors



Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors help VR customers learn about their strengths, abilities and interests to prepare for meaningful employment. As a counselor, you'll work closely with customers to select a vocational goal then make a plan and coordinate the services that will lead to their ultimate success.

Sr. Counselors



Vocational Rehabilitation Senior Counselors are counselors with 2 or more years of experience in counseling, the field of disability services or in rehabilitation. Senior Counselors bring their expertise to the most challenging customer cases to help those with the greatest need realize the greatest achievement.

Contact Vocational Rehabilitation



850-245-3399
800-451-4327



www.RehabWorks.org



Florida Department of Education
Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation
Employment Programs
325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1144
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2021 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$176,836,896. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$47,860,557) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2021.