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| Policy: ELCPC-60.1.1 | School Readiness Child Care Scholarship Service Categories and Eligibility Priority | |
| Coalition Plan: II.B. | Board Approved: 11/19/20 OEL Approved: 2/5/21 | Effective Date: 2/5/21 |

References: Ch. 1002.85, Florida Statutes and Ch. 1002.87, Florida Statutes

Purpose: To establish service categories and waitlist priorities for School Readiness scholarship recipients.

Background: School Readiness child care funding is available to eligible families to assist them in obtaining affordable, high quality child care. School Readiness child eligibility is determined in accordance with s. 1002.87 and 1002.85(2)(j), F.S. These local eligibility priorities have been established based on the *Community Needs Assessment* available at elcpinellas.net.

Policy:

New Placements

Referral/Non-Waitlist Priority Service Categories

| Non-Waitlist Priority | Eligibility Category |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | At Risk of Welfare Dependency |
| | A child younger than 13 years of age from a family that includes a parent who is receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and subject to the federal work requirements. |
| 2 | Children under 9 years of age At Risk – Diversion At Risk – Homeless At Risk – Domestic Violence At Risk – Protective Services At Risk – Foster Care At Risk – Out of Home Placement At Risk – Relative Care Giver At Risk – Protective Investigations At Risk – Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) |

Waitlist Priority Service Categories

| Waitlist Priority | Eligibility Category |
|--------------------------|---|
| 3 | Children 9 to 13 years of age At Risk – Diversion At Risk – Homeless At Risk – Domestic Violence At Risk – Protective Services At Risk – Foster Care At Risk – Out of Home Placement At Risk – Relative Care Giver At Risk – Protective Investigations At Risk – Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) |
| 4A | Economically Disadvantaged Children Ages birth to 5 prior to kindergarten eligibility. Additionally, the school-age siblings of children enrolled from this priority may also be enrolled until the beginning of the school year in which the sibling is eligible to begin 6th grade. |
| 4B | Economically Disadvantaged TANF Child Only Ages birth to 5 prior to kindergarten eligibility. |
| | Contingent upon the availability of funds, priority within Priority 4 will be given to eligible families participating in: VPK Wrap Teen Parent Clearwater Family Literacy Camelot Independent Living Program (ILP) or Ready for Life JWB Family Services Initiative- PEMHS System Navigation (Limit 10) |
| 5 | Transitional Child Care (TCC) or Education/Training TCC/TEd) ages birth to 5 prior to kindergarten eligibility. |
| 6A | Economically Disadvantaged Children TANF Child Only Ages 5 to younger than 9 years |
| 6B | Economically Disadvantaged Children TANF Child Only Ages 9 to younger than 13 years |
| 7 | Transitional Child Care (TCC) or Education/Training TCC/TEd) 5 (kindergarten eligible) to younger than 13 years. |
| 8 | Children 3 years to eligible for admission to kindergarten who have been determined eligible as a student with a disability, has a current IEP with a Florida school district. |
| 9 | Children eligible under Priority 1-4 but who are also enrolled concurrently in Head Start and Voluntary PreKindergarten |

II. Roll Overs

- a. The status of roll overs between priority groups and funding categories will be determined by the CEO based on availability of funds according to monthly utilization reviews.

III. Break in Care

- a. Foster children moving from one foster family placement to another with a break in care no greater than 10 days will not be considered a new placement. This action will not constitute a 'break in care'.