



## Part 3: CARES – Progress to Early Learning

# First Responders and Health Care Workers

## **\$44 Million** (from Child Care Fund)

- Continue funding incentives and new enrollments.
- Monitor participation rates to continue to prioritize access to child care SR programs and waive required parent copayments.
- Monitor for appropriate end date, likely during Summer 2020.

# Emergency Child Care Relief Grants

## \$55 Million (from Child Care Fund)

- Support open VPK/SR providers with funding for infrastructure, staff payments/bonuses for retention, cleaning supplies/services and other costs to ensure healthy and safe environments.
- Support open non-VPK/SR providers with funding for infrastructure, staff payments/bonuses for retention, cleaning supplies/services and other costs to ensure healthy and safe environments.
- Support is for providers that were open as of April 30, 2020.

# High-Quality Reopening Support Grants

## \$17 Million (from Child Care Fund)

- ❑ Support closed high-quality VPK/SR (i.e., CLASS score required for contracting) to reopen with funding for infrastructure, staff payments/bonuses for retention, cleaning supplies/services and other costs to ensure healthy and safe environments.
- ❑ Support closed high-quality non-VPK/SR providers (i.e., Gold Seal status) to reopen with funding for infrastructure, staff payments/bonuses for retention, cleaning supplies/services and other costs to ensure healthy and safe environments.
- ❑ Support is for high quality providers that were closed on April 30, 2020.

# Successful Transition to Kindergarten

## **\$21 Million** (from Child Care Fund)

- ❑ \$18 million: Implement summer programs for rising kindergarten students identified with limited language and emergent literacy skills as determined by the VPK assessments and teacher recommendations.
  - ❑ Linked to “Summer Recovery” on page 107.
- ❑ \$2.9 million: Pilot a VPK-K progress monitoring system statewide.
  - ❑ Linked to “PreK-3 Progress Monitoring and Data Informed Supports” on page 102.

# Continue Immediate Supports for Early Learning

(from existing FDOE resources to supplement CARES)

- ❑ \$60.9 million: Spend available CCDF funds as follows:
  - ❑ \$23.7 million: Enrollment and suspended termination for all VPK and SR providers.
  - ❑ \$23.0 million: Fund parents' required SR copayments.
  - ❑ \$14.2 million: Mini-grants for COVID-19 response infrastructure, cleaning, instructor stipends.

# Preschool Development Grant Funds

(from existing FDOE resources to supplement CARES)

- ❑ Redirecting \$2.4 million current federal discretionary funds, as appropriate, to continue to support the early learning community.
- ❑ Potential also for additional redirected Preschool Development Grant Funds for mental health supports and mapping of child care availability.
- ❑ In December 2019, Florida was awarded a renewal of the Preschool Development. The grant is designed to strengthen Florida's overall early childhood system to improve quality early learning experiences for children as well as their successful transition to kindergarten including improved data systems and professional development and resources for early learning teachers, administrators and families. Given the impact of COVID-19, the activities proposed for year 1, January – December 2020, were reviewed and funds will be redirected to support the learning of low income and limited English proficient children with curriculum for their child care providers and digital tools for their families.