



**April 29, 2026  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Early Learning Coalition of Duval  
In Person/Zoom Call**

**Agenda**

<b>11:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	Marcus Rowe
	<b>Chair Report</b> Approval of March 4, 2026, Minutes	Marcus Rowe
<b>11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>CEO Report</b>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. JCC – Full Day VPK</li><li>2. Meeting with DCF</li><li>3. Dashboard</li><li>4. Rule Updates</li><li>5. VPK Curriculum</li><li>6. Staff Highlights</li></ol>	Angel Carro
<b>12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Coalition ByLaws</b>	Marcus Rowe
<b>12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Committee/Workgroup Updates</b>  Finance Committee Appeals Committee DELDN	Melanie Patz Sarah Hulsberg Carla Whiteside
<b>12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>26-27 Draft Budget</b>	Melanie Patz
<b>1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Public Comment/Other Business/ Announcements</b>	

**Next Meeting – June 24, 2026**



**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

**In-Person/Zoom Board Meeting 11:30 am**

*Quorum met 15 of 25 members present*

**Board Members Present:** Dr. Dana Krizner, Dr. Tara Haley, Chelsea Harris, Amber Holley, Sarah Hulsberg, Dr. Letisha Jefferson, Maria McNair, Dr. Maribel Monsalve, James Poindexter, Jason Roth, Marcus Rowe, Carl Smith, Dr. Vicki Waytowich, Carla Whiteside, Marian Wilcher

**Board Members Absent:** Dr. Christopher Bernier-excused, Carlos Esquivia-Lee-excused, Karen Feagins-excused, Fionnuala Geoghegan-excused, Christina Gillis-excused, Samuel Newby-excused, Dr. Karen Patterson-excused, Melanie Patz-excused, Cheryl Taylor-excused, LaTanya Wynn-Hall-excused

**Guest:** Cheryl Fountain (UNF), Heather Monroe (UNF), Gabriela Silva (Reach Out and Read), Rich Cassidy (Moss Krusick), John Dufy (Moss Krusick)

**ELC Staff Present:** Angel Carro, Lashonda Hicks, Cheryl Benveniste, Tinesha Byrd, Cathie Odom, Bobby Seely, Ann Thompson, Katy Drubie, Heather Mooney, Kathy Wentworth, Sylvia Schmucker, Sheila Mackey, Catrina Patrick, Johnna Daniels, Khalida Bendolph, Lori Ryals, Charlene Gross, Beverly Lorde, Gwen Carmichael

Marcus Rowe began the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The December 17, 2025, meeting minutes were reviewed, and Marcus Rowe called for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Vicki Waytowich made a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE DECEMBER 17, 2025, MEETING MINUTES**

*Dr. Tara Haley seconded, and all approved the motion*

Moss Krusick & Associates gave an overview of the Single Audit. The Finance Committee made the motion to approve, and it was presented to the Board for a second.

**MOTION: APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*Sarah Hulsberg seconded, and all approved the motion*



Angel Carro presented the CEO report as follows:

1. Preschool Development Grant
2. Fraud Prevention
3. Childcare Solutions Taskforce
4. JCC-Full Day VPK
5. Legislative Bills
6. Staff Highlights

Dr. Tara Haley communicated the following financials:

- We are currently serving 8,870 children in SR
- We are currently serving 7,130 children in VPK
- We have 46 (39 children 0-5) on the waiting list.
- We are currently at 93% return rate for New Enrollment in January.

Jason Roth gave an update on the Legislative committee trip to Tallahassee.

Sarah Hulsberg gave an update from the Appeals committee with no appeals to report.

Carla Whiteside shared that the DELDN trainings are going well and that they are gearing up for the annual conference.

Cheryl Fountain shared the outcomes from the SEEDS and Garden Pilot program.

With no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tinesha Byrd



## CEO Report – April 29, 2026

### JCC – Full Day VPK

The Jacksonville Civic Council is continuing to have discussions on how a full day prekindergarten program can be funded in Duval. Looking at scenarios for starting with a small group with the goal of reaching 10,000 children after 5 years.

### DCF Meeting

Coalition staff attended a meeting with DCF staff to help with our collaboration with childcare providers. We went over our process when dealing with complaints received and how to report them to DCF.

### Dashboard

We are adjusting the online dashboard from having it available on our website to Webauthor. This will help with the cost and still allow us to provide live data reports to board members. We will have static images of our yearly numbers on our website.

### Rule Updates

Rules with New Effective Dates – EFSM updates are underway:

As of 02.24.26

- Rule 6M-4.610 (SR Provider Contract) – Incorporated needed changes from previous rule amendments
- Rule 6M-8.301 (VPK Provider Contract) – Incorporated needed changes from previous rule amendments

As of 03.26.26

- Rule 6M-4.300 (SR Application and Waiting List Procedures) – Added family income to tracking families on the wait list per HB 1255
- Rule 6M-4.720 (SR Child Screening) – Extended timeline for parent to complete child's screening

Rule Pending Workshop - on 04.02.26 @ 10 a.m.

- Rule 6M-4.500 (SR Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements) – Clarify documentation for when a special needs child requires accommodations beyond the ADA and allow providers that meet specified criteria as of 07.01.27 to receive a special needs differential for caring for a special needs child per SB 1102



**VPK Curriculum**

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) is opening the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) curriculum review and approval process. The VPK Curriculum publisher submission period will be open March 25 - May 9, 2026.

To prepare for the review of submitted curriculum by publishers, DEL is recruiting stakeholders who are interested in serving as VPK curriculum reviewers. Interested parties are to submit completed VPK Curriculum Reviewer Applications (attached) in accordance with the indicated timeframe (April 1 – May 1, 2026).

Note the following activities and anticipated timeline. **All dates are subject to change, and DEL will post all updates on the webpage <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/providers/vpk-curriculum.stml>.**

Please share this information with all potentially interested parties.

□

Activity	Anticipated Timeline
Publisher Informational Webinar	<b>April 8, 2026</b>
VPK Curriculum Reviewer Application Submission	<b>April 1 – May 1, 2026</b>
VPK Curriculum Reviewer Training	<b>June 17, 2026</b>
Curriculum Review Window	<b>July 1 – September 30, 2026</b>
Announcement of Approved Curriculum	<b>Spring 2027</b>

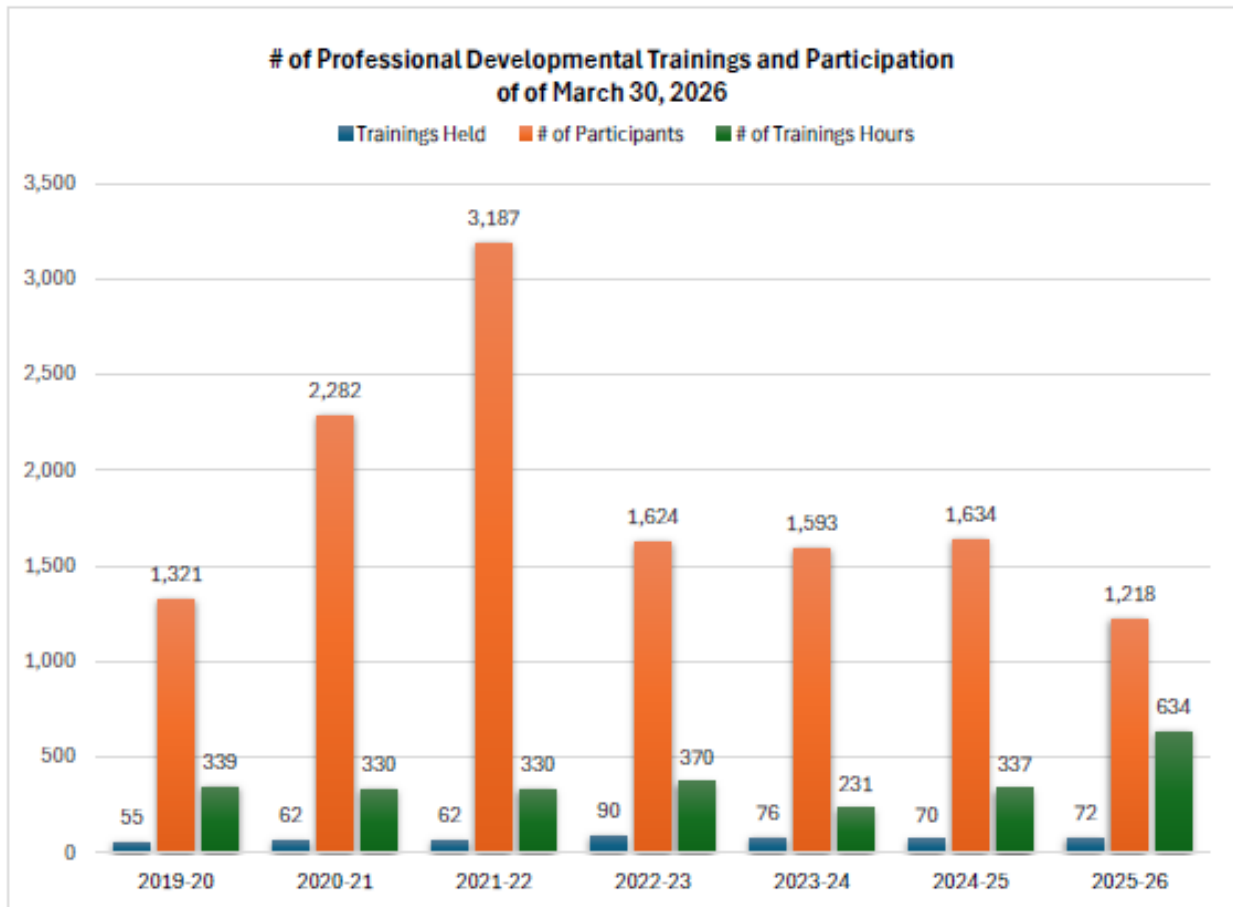
**Staff Highlights for the last two months**

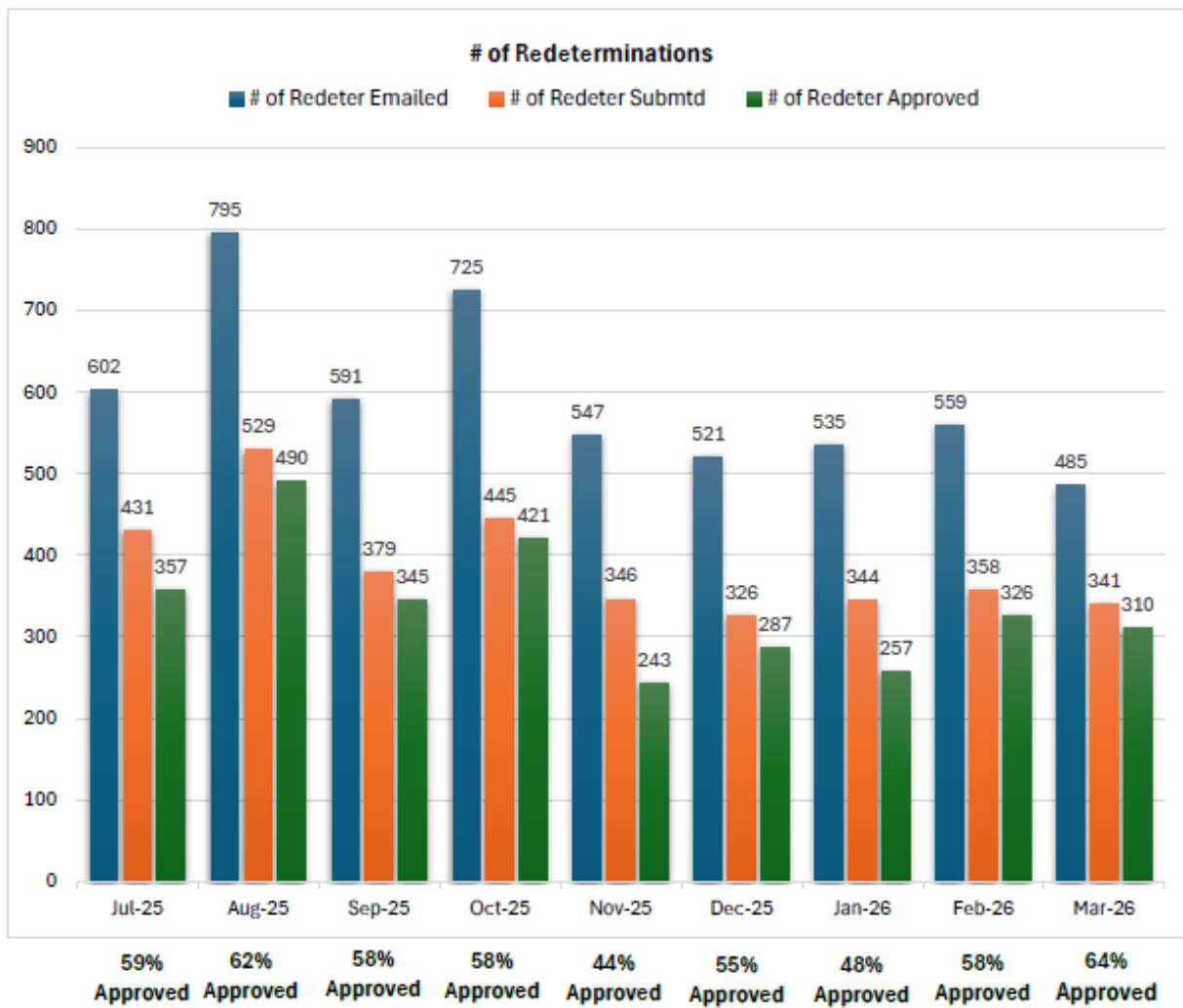
- The Early Learning Coalition of Duval and a few of the grant recipients of the **2025-26 Professional Learning STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Grant** are hosting STEAM Tours on May 19 and 20, 2026 from 9:30 - 11:30 AM. During those days, board members, community leaders, and coalition staff can visit up to four participating early learning centers and observe some of the STEAM grant activities being implemented in real time with children.
- During the next two months provider services staff will be completing School Readiness provider orientations with all contracted providers.
- Provider services have completed 96% of all provider profiles as of 4/27/26.

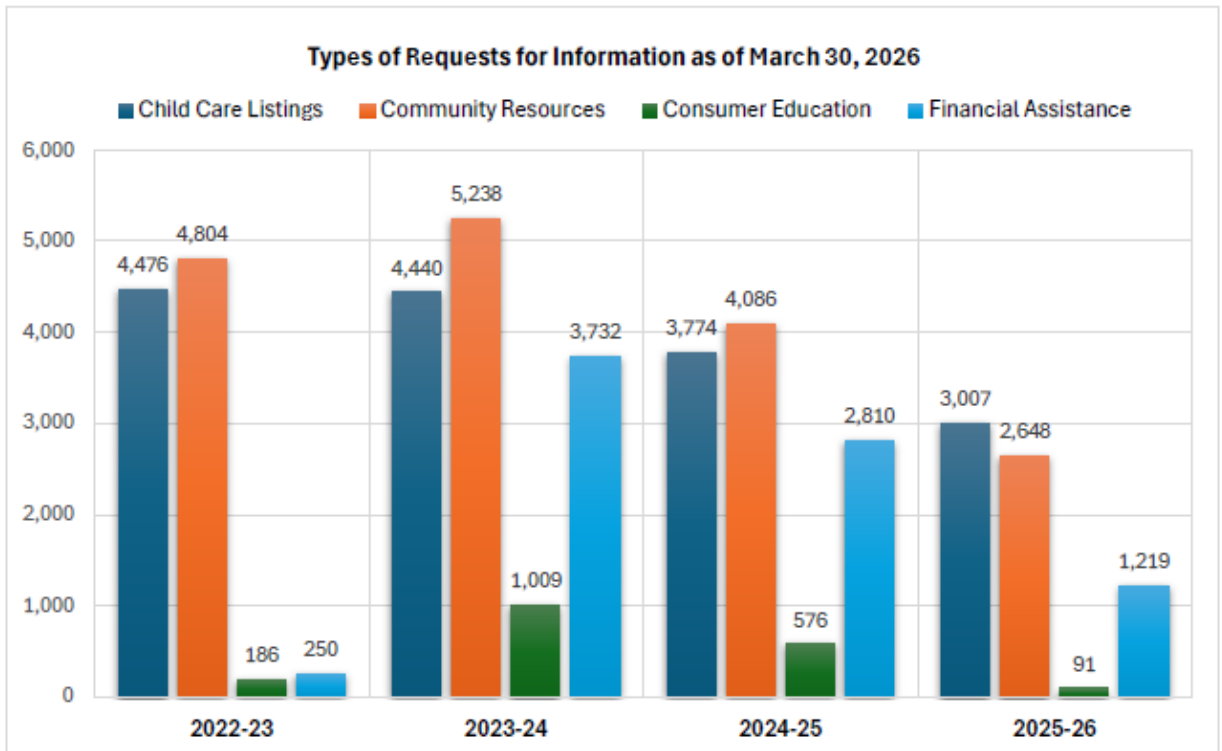
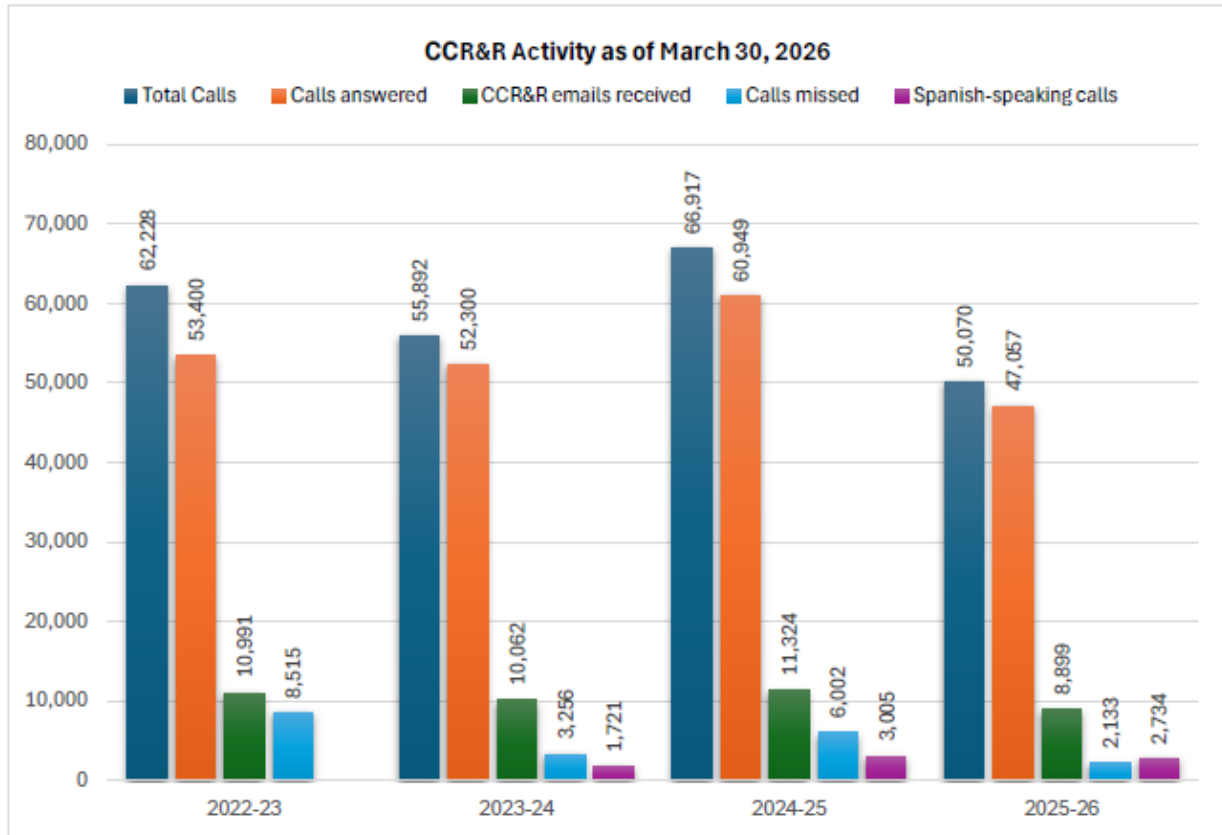


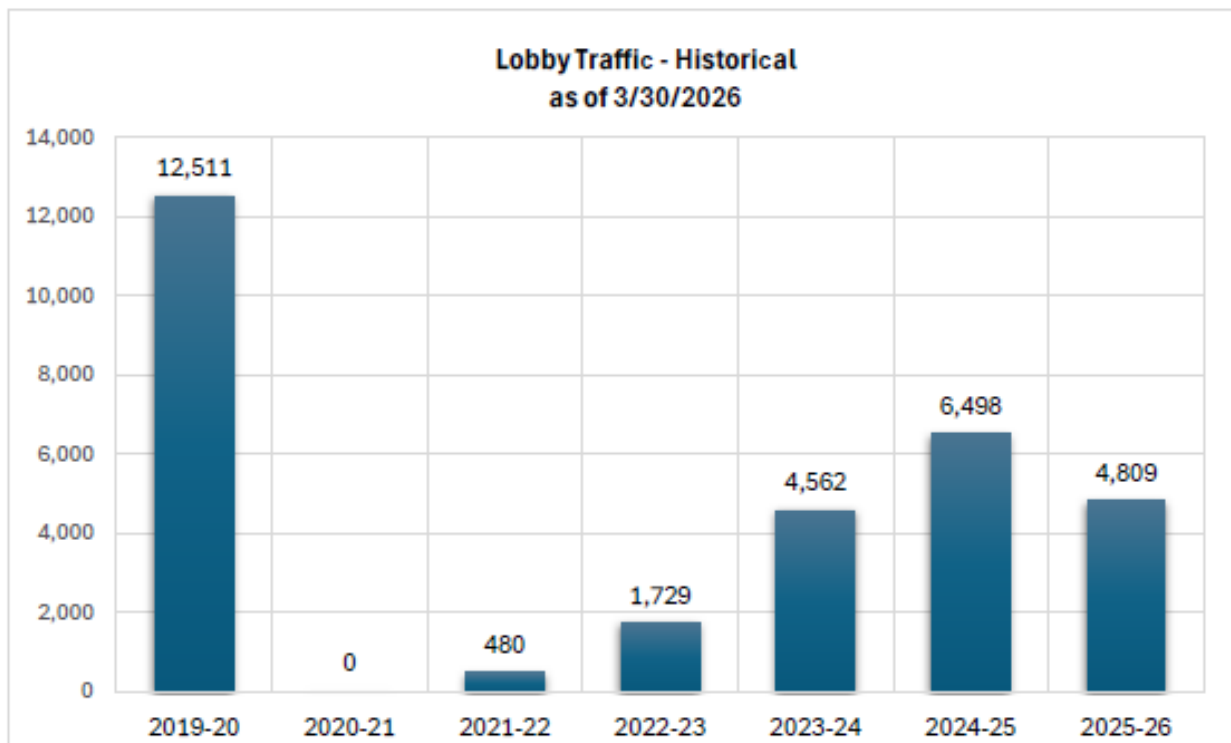
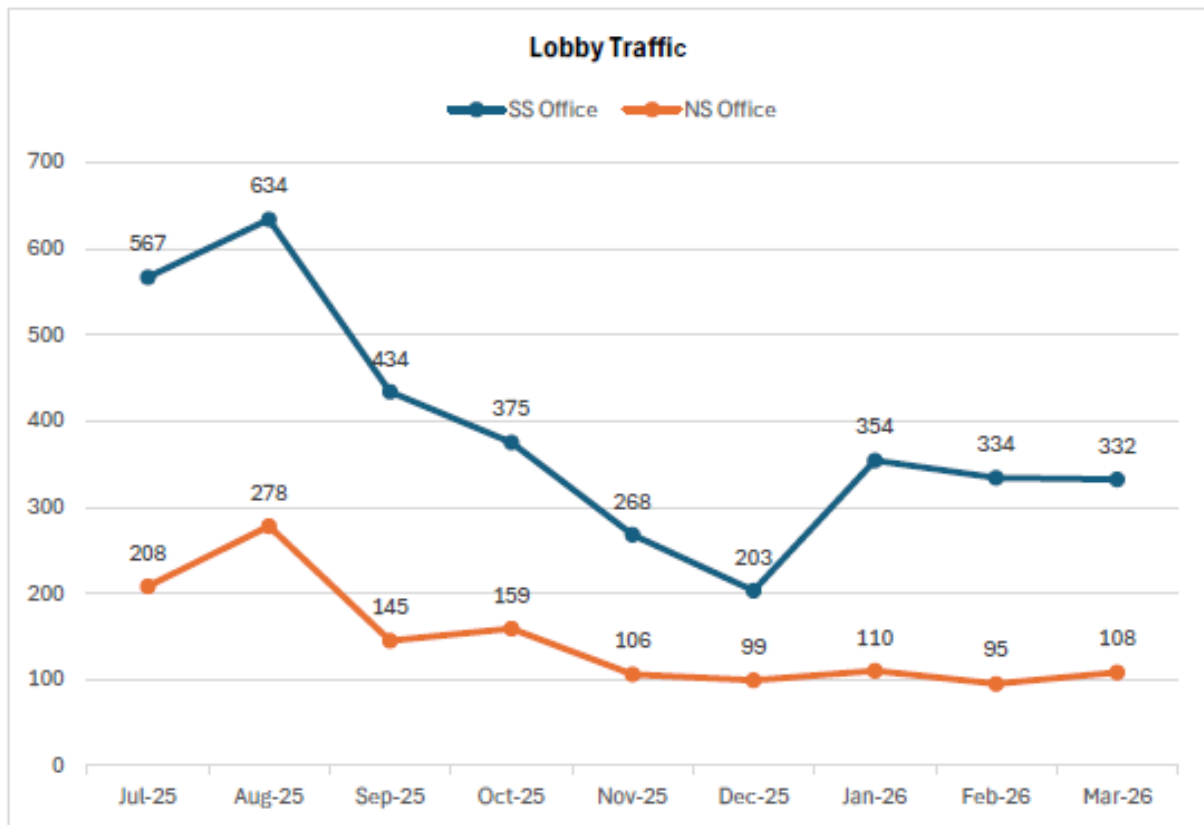
- Our training program for the current fiscal year has ended and we wanted to share some of the positive feedback:
  - Jessica Roland: "Thank you so much!!! This is one of the best courses I've taken. To be honest, I put off taking the course for a while because I was afraid of getting sleepy or being bored... but you kept it very interesting and interactive! You are a great instructor! Thanks again!" (Social Emotional Learning in Early Childhood)
  - Catina Jones: "She was an amazing trainer...she allowed us to talk and be hands on." (Transforming Fine Motor Development)
  - Michelle Williams: "Training was excellent and I learned many new skills." (Supporting Engagement through Learning Styles and Modalities)
  - Krystle Fretag: "Thank you so much. It was something I really needed and I learned so much." (Don't Let the Hard Days Win)

### ELC Dashboard









**BYLAWS  
EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL,**

**INC.**

Amended and Restated effective ~~October 2023~~

Updated 4/13/2026

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME AND LOCATION OF ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1.1. NAME OF COALITION**

The name of the organization is the Early Learning Coalition of Duval, Inc., hereinafter sometimes referred to as the “Coalition”.

**Section 1.2. LOCATION OF THE COALITION**

The principal office of the Coalition shall be located in the county of Duval, as determined by the Board of Directors. The Coalition mailing address is:

**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.**  
c/o Executive Director  
6500 Bowden Road, Suite 290  
Jacksonville, Florida 32216

The Coalition may have multiple offices within the county, based on the organization’s requirements and subject to determination by the Board of Directors.

**Section 1.3. INCORPORATION.** The Coalition is a not-for-profit corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of Florida.

**ARTICLE II**

**VISION, MISSION, PURPOSE, GOALS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Section 2.1. VISION OF THE COALITION**

**The Early Learning Coalition of Duval is Jacksonville’s first stop for early learning through collaborative leadership that ensures:**

- **All children receive high quality care and learning**
- **All families have the support they need for their children to succeed**
- **All children are ready for their academic and lifelong success**

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**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.**  
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**Section 2.2. MISSION OF THE COALITION**

**To lead and support the early learning community in building the best foundation for children from birth to kindergarten.**

**Section 2.3. PURPOSE OF THE COALITION**

THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, *recognizes the primacy of parents as their children’s first teachers. The Coalition shall implement Sections 1(b) and (c) of Art. IX of the State Constitution creating a voluntary prekindergarten program and provide opportunities for the at-risk birth-to-kindergarten population through school readiness programs to enhance chances for a child’s educational success.*

**Section 2.4. GOALS OF THE COALITION**

The Coalition will develop an approved plan by Division of Early Learning, which facilitates the stated goals of the Early Learning Programs as required under Florida Chapter 1002 – Student and Parental Rights and Education Choices (the “Act”). The Coalition shall ensure compliance of the approved plan.

**Section 2.5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COALITION**

The Coalition *shall be responsible for school readiness programs established for children from birth to the beginning of the school year for which a child is eligible for admission to kindergarten.* The Coalition shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the needs of children for extended day and extended year services without compromising the quality of the program.

The Coalition’s *plan shall be submitted to the Division of Early Learning (DEL) at the Department of Education for approval.*

2.5.1. The Coalition *plan must meet the requirements of Ch.1002, F.S. and the performance standards and outcome measures adopted by DEL.*

2.5.2. The Coalition shall be responsible for meeting the minimum standards and provisions.

**Section 2.6. Plan control and services**

The Coalition shall control its plan and services subsequent to approval by DEL. A coalition may not implement revisions until a revised plan receives approval by the DEL.

**BYLAWS**  
**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.**  
Amended and Restated effective October 2023  
**ARTICLE III**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 3.1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS**

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval County shall have not more or less members than authorized by the Act and DEL. The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other members of each early learning coalition who shall meet the same requirement as members appointed from the private sector business member. In the absence of a governor appointed chair, the Commissioner of Education may appoint an interim chair among the currently serving members on the board.

**Section 3.2. LEGISLATIVELY DESIGNATED MEMBERS**

The Coalition must include the certain members as mandated by the Act and all members have voting privileges. These individuals may serve continuously while they are in their respective positions. A member who no longer serves in that mandated position will notify the chair in writing and their seat will remain vacant until a replacement for their position is named by their organization.

- A Department of Children and Families regional administrator or his or her permanent designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the department.
- A district superintendent of schools or his or her permanent designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the district.
- A local workforce development board executive director or his or her permanent designee.
- A county health department director or his or her designee.
- A children's services council or juvenile welfare board chair or executive director, if applicable.
- A Department of Children and Families child care representative or agency head of a local licensing agency as defined in s. [402.302](#), where applicable.
- A president of a Florida College System institution or his or her permanent designee.
- One member appointed by a board of county commissioners or the governing board of a municipality.
- A Head Start director.
- A representative of private for-profit child care providers, including private for-profit family day care homes.
- A representative of faith-based child care providers.
- A representative of programs for children with disabilities under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

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- ~~A central agency administrator, where applicable.~~

**Section 3.3. APPOINTED MEMBERS**

**Section 3.4. The terms of all appointed members of the Coalition will be elected for a term of four years.**

**MEMBERSHIP TERM OF APPOINTED MEMBERS**

Coalition membership will be made pursuant to the Act and require a commitment of time including attending regularly scheduled coalition meetings, committee/workgroup involvement, and becoming educated about the complex aspects of early childhood development and school readiness issues.

- 3.4.1. Appointed members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. A representative or appointed member appointed to fill a position for one year or less will be eligible to serve two additional four-year terms.
- 3.4.2. All vacancies must be advertised by the Coalition.
- 3.4.3. Any appointed member may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum of the members, whenever, in their judgment, the best interests of the organization would be served. The Coalition Secretary will give written notice of removal to the member.
- 3.4.4. Any appointed member who has unexcused absences from three (3) consecutive meetings or six (6) meetings within a twelve (12) month period is considered to have resigned. An *Unexcused Absence* shall be defined as an absence where the absentee board member did not notify the Board Chair or coalition staff in advance of a meeting that they would not be able to attend the meeting
- 3.4.5. Members do not receive compensation for their service.
- 3.4.6. Any member, who completed his/her term(s) in good standing, may be nominated to the board after being absent from the Board for one year.
- 3.4.7. Notwithstanding the private sector membership requirements set forth in these bylaws, any current Board member who does not meet the criteria to serve as a private sector member may, at the discretion of the Early Learning Coalition (ELC), be invited to serve as a non-voting advisory member for the remainder of their current term. Advisory members may participate in meetings and provide public comment and input on coalition programs but shall not have voting rights or be counted toward quorum requirements.

**BYLAWS**  
**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.**  
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**Section 3.5. MEMBERSHIP ETHICS**

3.5.1. All members will abide by Florida’s “Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees” in Chapter 112 (Part III) of the Florida Statutes.

**ARTICLE IV**

**MANAGEMENT**

**Section 4.1. POWERS AND DUTIES**

The powers, management, and control of the Coalition, and all of its affairs shall be vested in the Members of Coalition as outlined in the part V of Chapter 1002, F. S (sometimes referred to herein as the “Board” or the “Board of Directors”).

4.1.1. Members of the coalition are subject to the ethics provisions in part III of Chapter 112.

**Section 4.2. VOTING**

The act of voting shall be conducted by only those members with the authority to vote in accord with the statute.

4.2.1. Each voting member of the Coalition shall participate without proxy at any meeting of the Coalition.

4.2.2. *No member of a coalition may appoint a designee to act in his or her place unless specifically authorized in Chapter 1002, F.S. A member may send a representative to the coalition meetings, but that replacement has no voting privileges.*

4.2.3. Each voting member is a local public officer who must abstain from voting when a voting conflict arises.

**Section 4.3. MEETINGS**

Regular meetings will be held at a time and place as decided by the Coalition and in accordance with the "Sunshine Amendment", Florida Statute 286.011. The Coalition will hold a minimum of four (4) meetings per year.

4.3.1. The Chair or any majority of the voting members may call special meetings of the Coalition.

4.3.2. The Chair will determine the agenda and order of business at all Coalition meetings.

4.3.3. Time will be allotted at the end of each meeting for public comments. Public comments will be limited to 2-3 minutes per person.

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- 4.3.4. The Coalition will keep minutes of all meetings and provide the minutes of meetings at least three (3) days prior to each meeting.
- 4.3.5. The Coalition will provide notice of all meetings pursuant to Florida Statute 286.011 or legislative exception 286.0111.
- 4.3.6. Conference Calls: Members of the Coalition or of a committee/workgroup of the Coalition may participate in a meeting of such board or such committee/workgroup by means of a conference telephone or similar telecommunications technology allowing for public access by means of which all persons participating in the meeting may communicate and can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

#### Section 4.4. QUORUM

The majority of the voting membership constitutes a quorum required to conduct the business of the Coalition. At any meeting at which a quorum is present, a majority vote shall control all matters, unless otherwise specified in these bylaws or in The Articles of Incorporation.

#### Section 4.5. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rule of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Coalition in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with, Florida Statutes, these bylaws, and any special rules of order the Coalition may adopt.

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS

#### Section 5.1. TITLES

The officers of this Coalition shall consist of the **Chairperson**, a **Vice-Chairperson**, a **Treasurer**, and a **Secretary**. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting in **June**. As appointed by the Governor, the outgoing Chairperson shall preside at the last meeting of his/her term and the new Chairperson shall preside at the first meeting of his/her term **as determined by the Governor**.

A Coalition member in good standing is eligible for nomination and election to any elective office of this Coalition.

- 5.1.1. A Nominating Committee, appointed by the Chair, will certify members as eligible for office and nominate an official slate of nominees. Any person nominated will have given prior consent to serving.
- 5.1.2. Excluding the Chair, each elected officer will take office at the end of the annual meeting. He or she will be installed and will serve for a term of two years or until

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### EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.

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a successor is duly qualified and elected. Officers may serve in the same position for a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms. The first officers of the Coalition will be elected when all members of the Coalition are seated.

- 5.1.3. If an office is vacated prior to the completion of a two-year term, a member in good standing will be appointed by the Chair to fill the vacancy until the terms ends.
- 5.1.4. If the Chair position is vacated prior to the completion of its term, the name of member in good standing shall be submitted to the Office of the Governor to fill the vacancy until the term ends.

#### **Section 5.2. DUTIES**

- 5.2.1. The Chair will preside at all meetings of the Coalition and perform the duties that are usually executed by the Chief Executive Officer. The Chair will appoint the chairpersons of all committees and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Coalition.
- 5.2.2. The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair when the Chair is absent and have such other responsibilities as designated by the Chair.
- 5.2.3. The Treasurer will be responsible for fiscal accountability of funds received and expended for the use of the Coalition and will make a report at the annual meeting or when called upon by the Chair. The Treasurer shall have a background in accounting or in financial management. The Treasurer shall be chair of the Audit Committee.
- 5.2.4. The Secretary shall ensure that notice required by these bylaws is given and keep records of all proceedings of the Coalition. The Secretary will perform other duties as assigned by the Chair.

## ARTICLE VI

### COMMITTEES

#### **Section 6.1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The members may establish standing and special committees, as they deem necessary.

- 6.1.1. The Chair of each committee will be a member of the Coalition and will be appointed by the Chair of the Coalition. Committee chairs may serve more than one term.
- 6.1.2. Each committee will consist of the Chair and at least two (2) additional members of the Coalition. Representatives from the community are encouraged to serve as members of committees as needed to carry on the work of the committee
- 6.1.3. Each committee will meet as necessary at meeting times designated by the committee Chair
- 6.1.4. The committee Chair will submit a written report to the Coalition members before the next regularly scheduled meeting if official action is required by the Coalition

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### EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.

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6.1.5. The committees will provide notice of all meetings pursuant to Florida Statute 286.011 or legislative exception 286.0111.

#### Section 6.2. Standing Committees.

There shall be standing committees as are necessary to perform the following functions:

##### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers, plus two (2) at-large members elected by the Coalition. The immediate Past Chairperson shall serve as a member of the committee. Except for the power to amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall have all of the powers and authority of the Coalition, in the intervals between meetings of the Coalition, subject to the direction and control of the Coalition.

##### Finance Committee

**The Chair will appoint the finance committee. The finance committee will receive and review monthly reports from the *Fiscal Staff for presentation to the Coalition***

The committee will review slot utilization and monthly budget forecasting. They will review the Financial Audit of the Coalition, review internal financial controls policies and make recommendations if necessary, review State fiscal monitoring reports and determine annual budget and other affairs of the Coalition as necessary relevant to its financial business management

##### Nominating Committee

The Chair will appoint the nominating committee. All of the members must be from the Coalition. The nominating committee is responsible for nominating the Executive Committee for election one month prior to the annual meeting. The nominating committee will submit a written slate of nominations ten (10) days before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the members for distribution to the members.

##### Personnel Committee

To develop and approve the personnel policies and standards of the Coalition, to give guidance to the CEO in the personnel matters, to hear all grievances that cannot be met by the CEO.

**BYLAWS**  
**EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL, INC.**  
Amended and Restated effective October 2023

**ARTICLE VII**

**FINANCE**

**Section 7.1. FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Coalition shall correspond with the fiscal year of Florida's Division of Early Learning at Department of Education.

**Section 7.2. BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The Coalition shall keep correct and complete books and records of accounts and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its members and committees having any of the authority of the Coalition, and shall keep at the principal office a record giving the names and business addresses of its current Coalition members and officers. Access to all corporate records shall be given upon request with reasonable notice.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**BYLAWS**

**Section 8.1. IMPLEMENTATION**

These bylaws will become effective immediately upon adoption. The Coalition's interpretation of the bylaws will be considered the correct interpretation when reached by majority vote.

**Section 8.2. AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by a majority of the members present at any regularly scheduled or specially called meeting of the members, that has a quorum, provided at least five (5) days written notice is given of an intention to do so.

A copy of the amended bylaws are part of the Coalition's State Plan and any amendment(s) to them constitutes an amendment to the State approved plan and must be provided to Division of Early Learning as required by the law or regulation of the state of Florida.



**Early Learning Coalition of Duval  
Finance Summary  
April 2026**

**Child Care:**

Children Served	March 2026	March 2025	% Change
School Readiness with Match	9,419	9,520	-1.1% ↓
SR Plus	38	9	322.2% ↑
VPK	7,094	7,510	-5.5% ↓

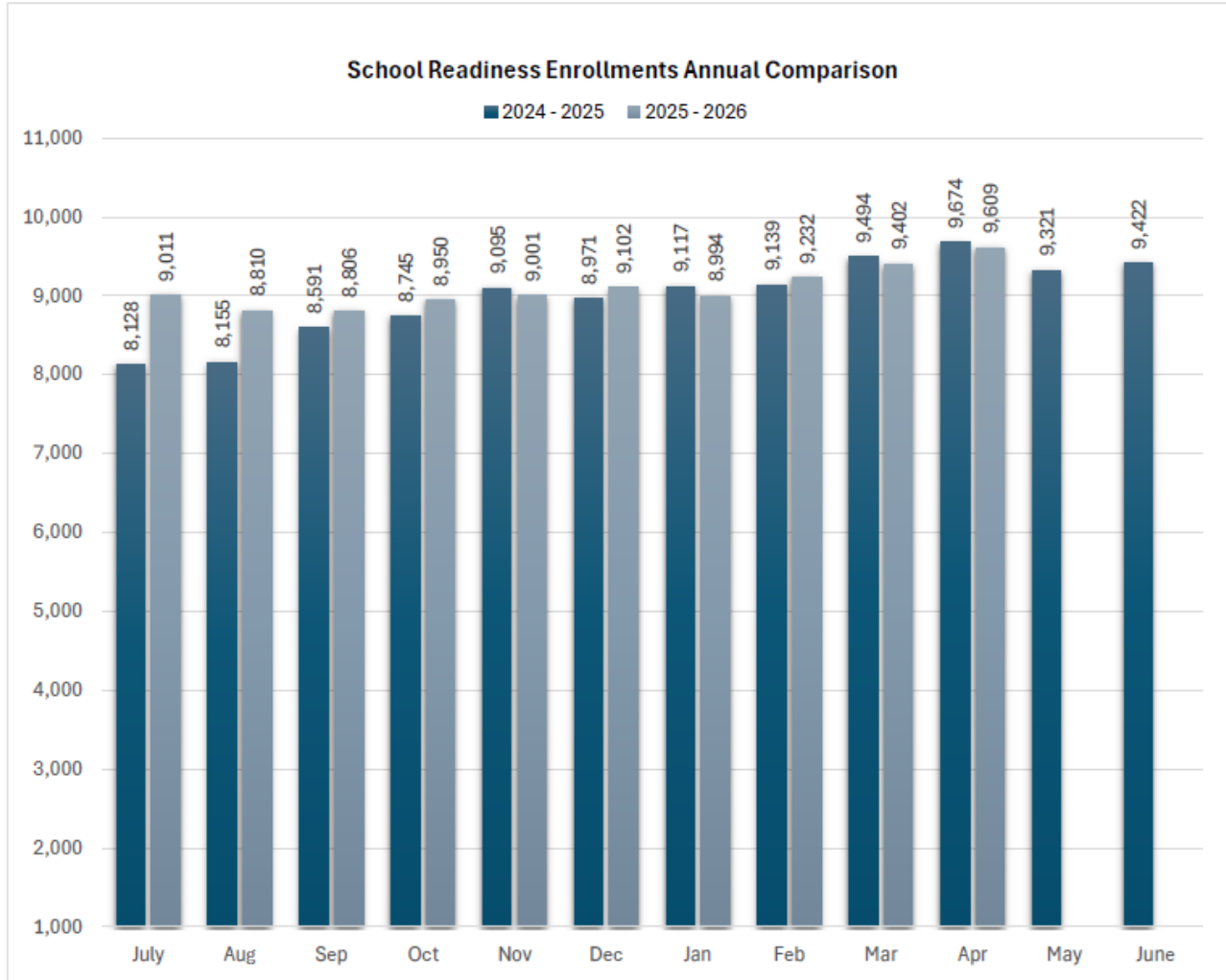
School Readiness	April 2026	Prior Month	April 2025	% Change from PY
Wait List – Birth through 5	41	27	382	-89% ↓
Wait List – School Age	5	14	158	-97% ↓
Wait List – Total	46	41	540	-91% ↓

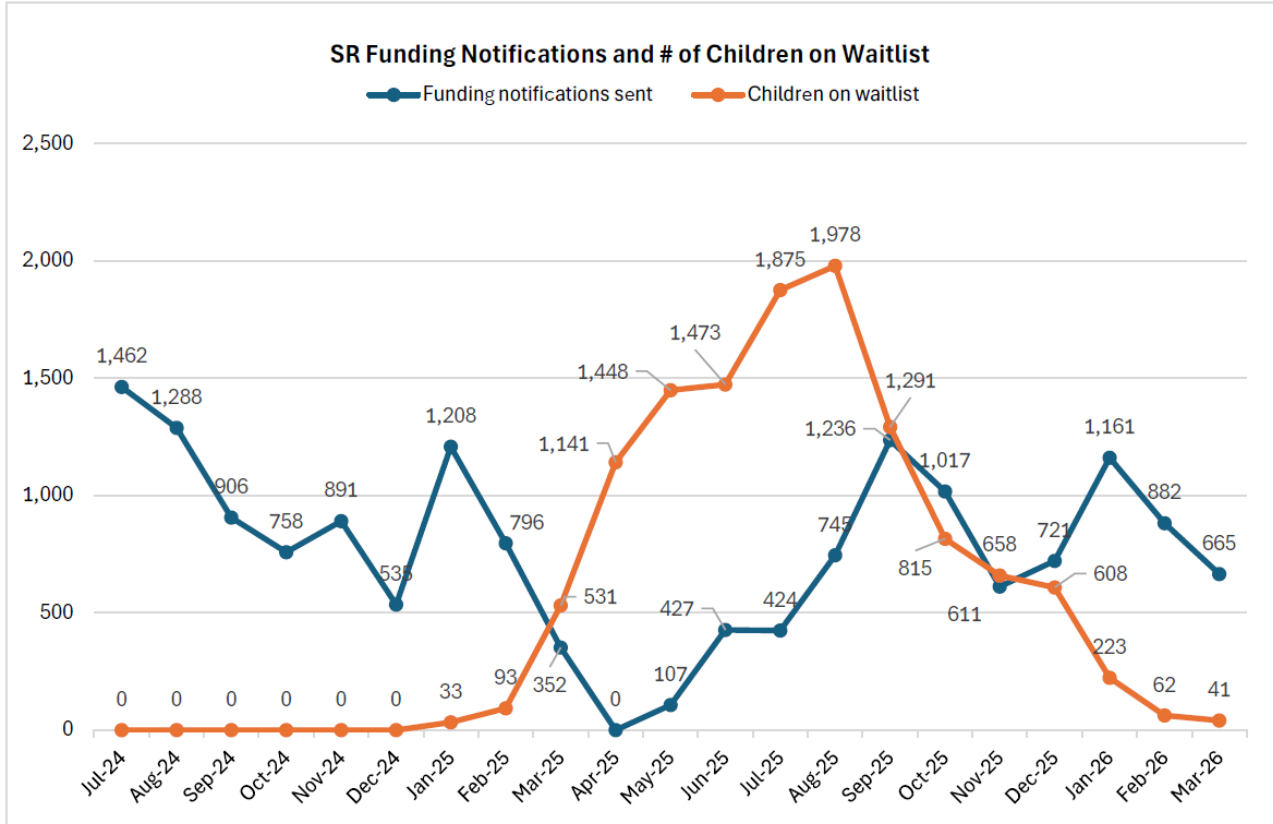
School Readiness	Returned	Approved	% Change
New Enrollments March (1063)	93%	59%	N/A
Redeterminations March (490)	70%	65%	N/A

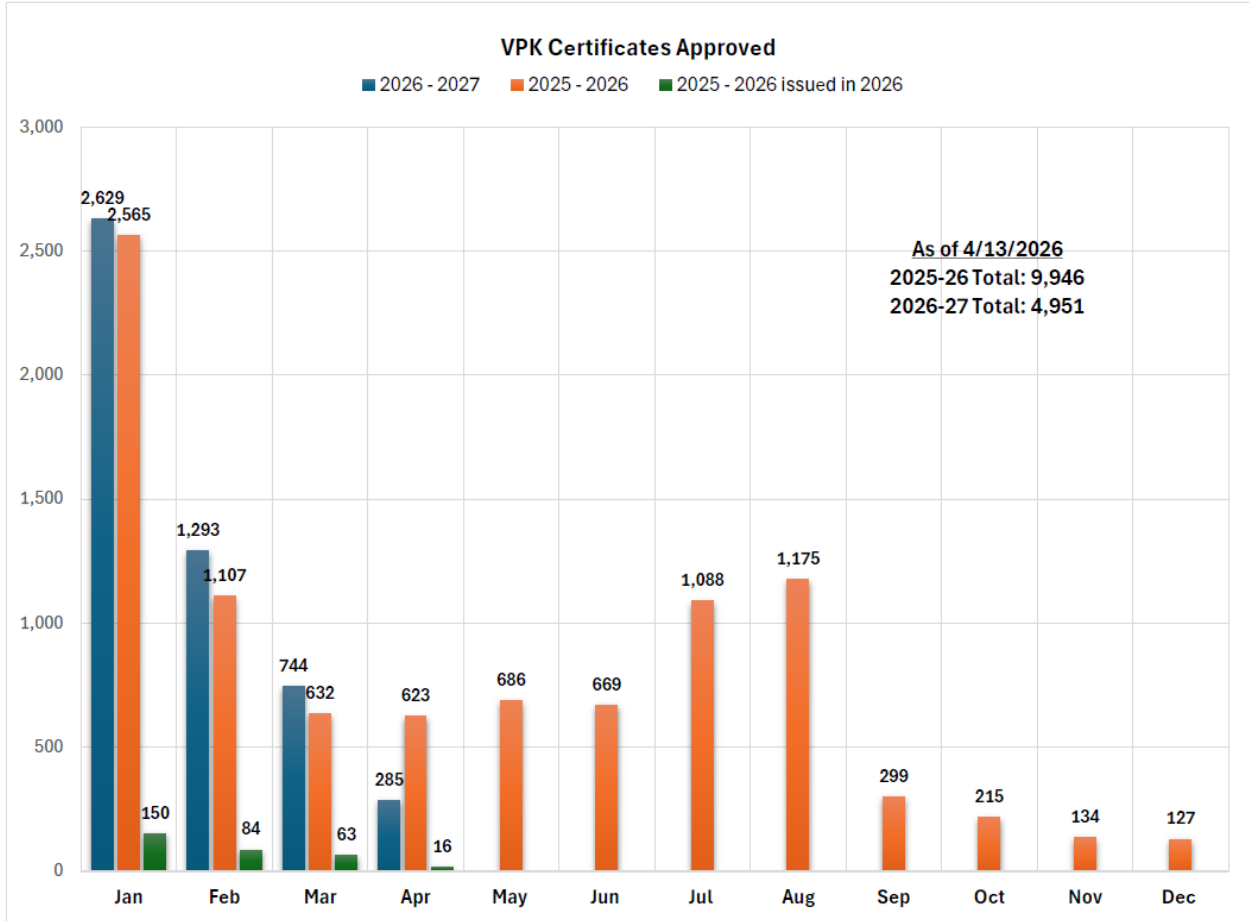
VPK	April 2026	April 2025	% Change
VPK Enrollments	7,157	7,610	-6.0% ↓

- We are currently sending enrollment packets weekly. We are currently sending packets to families through the following application dates:
  - Children *Birth through Five Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 3)*: 4/16/2026
  - Children *Over Age Nine At Risk DCF Referrals (BG1 Priority 5)*: 4/16/2026
  - Children *School Age Economically Disadvantaged (BG8 Priority 6)*: 4/16/2026

Key	
DEL	Division of Early Learning
SR	School Readiness – Program funded through DEL with Federal and State Dollars
SR Plus	School Readiness Plus Program funded through State of Florida general revenue to extend child care services for families that have exited the SR Program
VPK	Voluntary Prekindergarten – Program funded through DEL with state of Florida general revenue
New Enrollment	Families who are on our waitlist and we are trying to enroll into SR
Redetermination	Current family in SR that is trying to renew their eligibility
Packet	Application sent to SR family to enroll or renew their SR eligibility. May include more than 1 child.







**ELC OF DUVAL 2025-2026: School Readiness Slots**

	Month	Beginning Census	Actual Increase (Decrease)	Ending Census	Care Days In Month	Daily Unit Cost	Avg. Monthly Cost	MONTHLY COST *		Diff
								ACTUAL	PROJECTED	
Actual	JUL	8,966	-575	8,391	23	26.41	607.41	4,978,573	5,096,751	118,179
	AUG	8,391	292	8,683	21	21.82	458.20	3,944,983	3,978,593	33,610
	SEP	8,683	-31	8,652	22	23.04	506.98	4,290,982	4,386,380	95,398
	OCT	8,652	271	8,923	23	22.62	520.28	4,559,127	4,642,418	83,291
	NOV	8,923	-2	8,921	20	24.03	480.55	4,188,380	4,287,030	98,651
	DEC	8,921	-116	8,805	23	23.54	541.37	4,521,948	4,766,751	244,803
	JAN	8,805	65	8,870	22	23.74	522.23	4,495,986	4,632,207	136,221
	FEB	8,870	279	9,149	20	23.59	471.85	4,252,446	4,316,930	64,484
Projected	MAR	9,149	270	9,419	22	23.02	506.40	4,799,511	4,769,747	-29,764
	APR	9,419	190	9,609	22	23.37	514.20	0	4,940,960	4,940,960
	MAY	9,609	33	9,642	21	23.60	495.62	0	4,778,796	4,778,796
	JUN	9,642	54	9,696	22	24.63	541.94	0	5,254,650	5,254,650
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>108,030</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>108,760</b>	<b>261</b>		<b>513.53</b>	<b>40,031,936</b>	<b>55,851,215</b>	<b>15,819,279</b>

Average # Children / Month	9,063
Total Annual Forecasted Cost	55,006,342
Avg Annual Cost Per Child	6,069

State Grant	68,384,871.00
Local SR Match	2,835,598.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,220,469.00</b>
78% Minimum Required	55,551,965.82
Current Slot Projection	55,006,341.81
Estimated Match towards 78%	1,295,313.28
<b>Total Direct Services</b>	<b>56,301,655.09</b>
Target Met (YES / NO)	<b>YES</b>

Under / (Over) Slot Requirement (749,889)

<b>BUDGET *</b>	<b>55,423,027</b>
<b>FORECAST COSTS *</b>	<b>55,006,342</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>416,685</b>

Direct Slot Match	1,295,313	
<b>Total Direct Forecast Costs</b>	<b>56,301,655</b>	<b>79.1%</b>
<b>Total Direct Budget</b>	<b>56,718,340</b>	<b>79.6%</b>

QPI Deficit	463
<b>Adjusted Surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>417,149</b>

Forecasted Direct % Based on Total Grant Spending	79.5%
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\*Includes Special Needs and Gold Seal

**Early Learning Coalition of Duval  
School Readiness 2025-2026 Enrollment Plan**

Month	Children
Apr-26	200
May-26	200
Jun-26	200

**ACH Wires released in March 2026**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Mar 26 Insurance	3/3/2026	\$ 139,596.23
Mar 26 Rents	3/3/2026	\$ 20,249.00
SR Provider Levy	3/4/2026	\$ 7,672.00
UNF.FIE Inv FIE4849	3/4/2026	\$ 115,000.00
VPK Jan 26 Act Mar 26 Adv - Late Roster	3/7/2026	\$ 5,952.06
STEAM Grants - Import 2	3/17/2026	\$ 198,789.07
SR, BOPT, SRPLS, REF Feb 26	3/20/2026	\$ 4,476,947.11
BLI Jan & Feb 26	3/23/2026	\$ 37,191.22
Journey Feb 26	3/24/2026	\$ 31,549.70
SB6 Mar 26	3/24/2026	\$ 1,808.99
SR/SRPLS Feb 26 - Late Roster	3/25/2026	\$ 2,952.70
Eastbound Mar 26	3/30/2026	\$ 1,738.00
STEAM Grants - Import 3	3/30/2026	\$ 177,913.24
VPK Feb 26 Act Apr 26 Adv	3/30/2026	\$ 2,420,924.45



**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As of 3/31/2026**

Assets

Cash	<u>8,176,707.81</u>
Total Cash	8,176,707.81
Grants Receivable	<u>9,157,426.89</u>
Total Grants Receivable	9,157,426.89
Prepaid Expenses	<u>2,864,317.63</u>
Total Prepaid Expenses	2,864,317.63
Property, Plant, & Equipment	<u>901,005.03</u>
Total Property, Plant, & Equipment	901,005.03
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(469,694.51)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(469,694.51)</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>20,629,762.85</u></u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	<u>7,728,300.06</u>
Total Accounts Payable	7,728,300.06
Other Liabilities	<u>12,367,001.80</u>
Total Other Liabilities	<u>12,367,001.80</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>20,095,301.86</u>

Net Assets

Beginning Balance	<u>525,864.72</u>
Total Beginning Balance	525,864.72
Current Year	<u>8,596.27</u>
Total Current Year	<u>8,596.27</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>534,460.99</u>

Total Liabilities & Net Assets (20,629,762.85)



**Statement of Activities**  
**Month ended 3/31/2026**

**Revenues**

Grants	70,587,804.48
Contributions	34,924.96
Other	8,022.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>70,630,751.44</b>

**Expenses**

Salaries	5,387,982.46
Benefits	1,649,224.19
Professional	14,754.49
Contractual & Program	1,960,022.73
Operational	450,175.39
Asset Purchase	25,298.52
Quality Initiatives	940,943.88
Outreach	22,150.24
Travel	60,059.54
Insurance	29,849.49
Provider Payments	60,012,474.28
Other	69,219.96
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>68,545,794.26</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>8,596.27</b>



### **Action Item #1: Contract over \$65K – Early Childhood Books**

The coalition issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Early Childhood Books. As a result of this RFP, the coalition has selected to award and enter into contractual agreements with the below vendors. Each contract will be a three-year contract up to \$300,000.

- All About Books, Inc.
- Gardner Media
- Scholastic Educational Solutions

**Requested Action:** The coalition is seeking approval to enter into contracts with these three vendors as described above.



## **Action Item #2: Unrestricted Funds Policy**

Recently updated State guidance states that funds received by the coalition without any restrictions should follow its board approved policy. The coalition's draft Unrestricted Funds Policy is attached.

**Requested Action:** The coalition is seeking approval of the Unrestricted Funds Policy.



### **Action Item #3: 2025-2026 Budget Adjustment**

The coalition expects to receive a reobligation (increase) of \$750,000 in School Readiness (SR) for child care slots. This anticipated increase is reflected in the slot utilization report within this package. As shown in the slot utilization report, this creates approximately a \$400,000 surplus in SR. The coalition needs to utilize these funds for the following expenses:

- Wage Incentives - \$200,000
- Provider Professional Development Grants - \$80,000
- Torsh - \$86,200
- 401K Third-Party Administration (TPA) Fees - \$15,000
- Equipment replacement - \$20,000

**Requested Action:** The coalition is seeking approval of this 2025-2026 budget adjustment.



### **Action Item #4: Form 990**

Attached is the coalition's Form 990.

**Requested Action:** The coalition is seeking approval of the Form 990.

**School Readiness Providers Currently on ELC Probation  
 Probation and SR/DCF Violations within the past 2 years**

PROVIDER NAME	GSOD	PROBATION PERIOD	CAP(s)	CLASS 1 VIOLATIONS	CLASS 2 VIOLATIONS	CLASS 3 VIOLATIONS
Merritt Family Daycare Home - No longer contracted with ELC <i>CLOSED -did not renew DCF license 4/21/2026 .</i>	No	2/3/2026 - 8/3/2026	1	1	0	5

**School Readiness/VPK Contract Terminations within the past 2 years**  
 Gate Parkway KinderCare contracts terminated on 1/14/2026. Not Eligible for 25-26 contracts due to DCF license status of Probation

Updated 4-27-2026



## 2026-2027 Draft Budget Discussion

The Florida Legislature has not yet finalized the 2026-2027 state budget. The current budget bills presented by the House and Senate include \$59.4 million and \$56.5 million, respectively, for the ELC of Duval School Readiness program. This draft budget is prepared using the House bill budget. The draft budget includes the anticipated funding levels for all other ELC programs as well.



## 2026-2027 Draft Budget Summary

<u>Grant Program</u>	<u>Funding Agency</u>	<u>2026-2027<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>2025-2026<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Difference</u>
School Readiness	DOE - Divison of Early Learning	66,574,834	69,167,054	(2,592,220)
School Readiness Plus	DOE - Divison of Early Learning	75,000	455,500	(380,500)
Voluntary Prekindergarten	DOE - Divison of Early Learning	24,817,353	25,141,630	(324,277)
Child Care Enhancement	Kids Hope Alliance	3,545,000	3,542,534	2,466
EFM Respite Care	Child Care Aware of America	472,297	462,322	9,975
Help Me Grow	Childrens Forum	218,500	218,500	-
VPK Class Assessments	DOE - Divison of Early Learning	200,184	195,400	4,784
Success By Six	United Way of Northeast Florida	-	50,000	(50,000)
Refugee	Department of Children & Families	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 95,903,168</b>	<b>\$ 99,232,940</b>	<b>\$ (3,329,772)</b>

<sup>1</sup> 2026-2027 School Readiness (SR) base funding level based on House Bill 5001 General Appropriations Act (\$59.4 million). The following are based on the 2025-2026 funding levels: SR Match (\$2.8 million), Gold Seal (\$2.7 million), Special Needs (\$18,906) and provider quality (CLASS) differentials (\$1.5 million).

<sup>2</sup> 2025-2026 SR budget as of April 2026 which includes SR Match, provider quality differentials, and additional \$5.4 million received from prior year reverted and reappropriated (carryover) funds.

<p><b>Glossary:</b>          School Readiness - SR          Voluntary Prekindergarten - VPK          Department of Education - DOE          Division of Early Learning - DEL          Kids Hope Alliance - KHA          United Way of Northeast Florida - UW          Department of Children &amp; Families - DCF          Exeptional Family Member - EFM</p>
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## Staffing and Overall Budget Comparison 2026-2027 vs. 2025-2026

<b>STAFFING COMPARISON - 2026-2027 &amp; 2025-2026</b>			
<b>ALL PROGRAMS</b>			
<b>ELC</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
<b>COALITION OPERATIONS</b>	<b>126.00</b>	<b>126.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Administration & Finance	26.00	26.00	0.00
Family Services	45.00	45.00	0.00
Provider Services	15.00	15.00	0.00
Quality Programs	40.00	40.00	0.00

<b>BUDGET COMPARISON - 2026-2027 &amp; 2025-2026</b>			
<b>ALL PROGRAMS</b>			
	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
<b>COALITION OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 16,100,322</b>	<b>\$ 16,651,615</b>	<b>\$ (551,293)</b>
Administration & Finance	2,948,955	2,944,873	4,083
Family Services	3,609,438	3,552,116	57,322
Provider Services	1,199,561	1,170,695	28,866
Quality Programs	8,342,368	8,983,931	(641,563)

<b>CHILD CARE</b>	<b>\$ 79,805,346</b>	<b>\$ 82,581,325</b>	<b>\$ (2,775,979)</b>
SR Child Care Slots	54,692,851	56,733,210	(2,040,359)
SR Plus	75,000	455,500	(380,500)
VPK	23,634,704	23,940,361	(305,657)
Kids Hope Alliance	1,402,791	1,402,254	537
Refugee	-	-	-
Success By Six Scholarships	-	50,000	(50,000)

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 95,905,668</b>	<b>\$ 99,232,940</b>	<b>\$ (3,327,272)</b>
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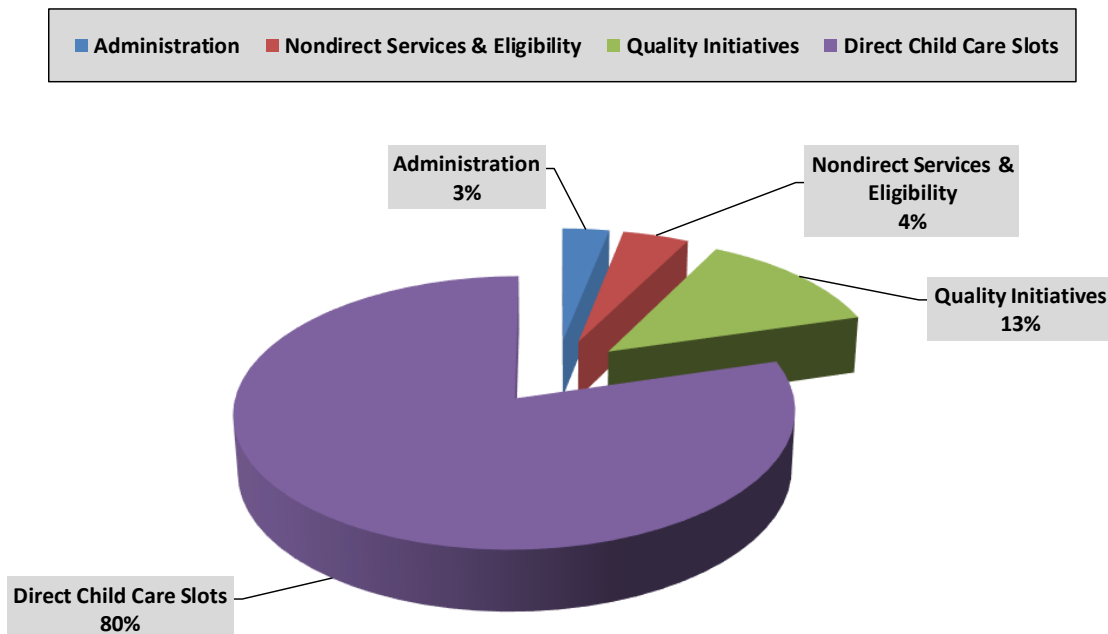
<b>COALITION OPERATIONS</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>
Administration & Finance	3.1%	3.0%
Family Services	3.8%	3.6%
Provider Services	1.3%	1.2%
Professional Development & Quality Initiatives	8.7%	9.1%
Child Care	83.2%	83.2%

### School Readiness (SR) Budget Comparison 2026-2027 vs. 2025-2026

<u>Description</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Administration	2,017,949	2,086,890	(68,941)
Nondirect Services & Eligibility	2,863,592	2,766,851	96,741
Quality	4,437,361	5,133,587	(696,226)
Quality - Infants & Toddlers	924,660	926,709	(2,049)
Quality - Inclusion	427,471	376,748	50,723
Quality - Resource & Referral	1,210,950	1,143,059	67,891
Direct Child Care Slots	50,363,527	52,403,886	(2,040,359)
<b>SR Base Grant Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 62,245,510</b>	<b>\$ 64,837,730</b>	<b>\$ (2,592,220)</b>
Quality Match	1,432,807	1,351,639	81,168
Direct Match	1,402,791	1,452,254	(49,463)
<b>Local Match Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,598</b>	<b>\$ 2,803,893</b>	<b>\$ 31,705</b>
<b>SR Base Grant &amp; Local Match Total</b>	<b>\$ 65,081,108</b>	<b>\$ 67,641,623</b>	<b>\$ (2,560,515)</b>
SR Special Needs Differentials	18,906	18,906	-
SR Gold Seal Differentials	2,778,235	2,778,235	-
SR Quality CLASS® Differentials	1,532,183	1,532,183	-
<b>Total SR &amp; Match</b>	<b>\$ 69,410,432</b>	<b>\$ 71,970,947</b>	<b>\$ (2,560,515)</b>

<u>SR Grant Requirements</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Administration (5% maximum)	3.0%	3.1%	-0.11%
Quality (4% minimum)	12.4%	13.2%	-0.78%
Administration, Quality and Nondirect (22% maximum)	19.6%	20.4%	-0.76%
Direct Child Care Slots (78% minimum)	80.4%	79.6%	0.76%

<u>SR Base Grant Quality Programs</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Personnel Expenses	3,793,088	3,664,791	128,297
Program Materials	2,757,024	3,365,500	(608,476)
Operating, Capital, Travel, Insurance, Staff Development	243,577	250,371	(6,794)
Assessment and Contractual Expenses	206,753	299,441	(92,688)
Program Income	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,000,442</b>	<b>\$ 7,580,103</b>	<b>\$ (579,661)</b>





COME AND JOIN US!

# STEAM TOURS

(SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS & MATH)

May 19 & May 20, 2026

9:30 am to 10:15 am or 10:45 am to 11:30 am

You are invited to see firsthand the accomplishments of the 2025-2026 Professional STEAM Grant at participating Duval child care centers.

Come and experience hands-on learning environments and witness the impact of high-quality education as it relates to STEAM!

Visit one program or all four!

## PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS

**SIGN UP**  
by May 13!



Crawford Early Learning Center  
5455 Springfield Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32208  
Soarve O'Neal, Director  
[CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT](#)



Beulahland Christian Academy  
9550 Ribault Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32208  
Dr. Patricia Willis, Director  
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Seasons of Learning Child Care Academy  
1830 West 45<sup>th</sup> Street, #5  
Jacksonville, FL 32209  
Tiara Morrison, Director  
[CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT](#)



Chappell @ FSCJ South  
11901 Beach Boulevard, Bldg.Y  
Jacksonville, FL 32246  
Shianti Oliver, Director  
[CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT](#)

To take the tour, please RSVP by May 13, 2026  
Please arrive 15 minutes before the tour start time.  
Please direct all questions to Johnna Daniels at 904-329-5532.