



**Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.**

<b>Subject: Parental Choice for School Readiness and VPK Services</b>		
<b>Policy #: 220.1</b> ELCSWF-EL0005-10	<b>Category:</b> Program Quality and Standards	<b>Reference #</b> OEL-EL-220
<b>Approval:</b> March 10, 2010	<b>Effective Date:</b> March 10, 2010	<b>Replaces (policy # and date):</b> ELCSWF-0005-05 approved March 17, 2005 ELCSWF-EL0005A-06 updated 7/26/06 ELCSWF-EL0005A-08 9/28/08

**1. General:**

- a. Parents applying for School Readiness (SR) or Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) services for their children shall be offered a full choice of child care settings and locations from eligible child care providers who have signed a SR/VPK Provider Agreement with the Coalition.
- b. Documentation supporting that the parent was provided a full choice of providers for the school readiness program will be determined by their signature on a Coalition approved form. The signed form must be filed in the parent/child file.

**2. At-Risk Children**

- Parents or caregivers of "At Risk" children, under the supervision of the Department of Children and Families, or their contracted providers, may only select from licensed child care programs or those owned and directly operated by the public school system, pursuant to Chapter 409.175 F.S. and Rule 65C-13 of the Florida Administrative Code.

**3. Relative Care:**

- For School Readiness services, parents may also choose a relative or "In home" care if they meet the requirements as an informal child care provider as addressed in Coalition Policy 408.2 "Informal Child Care Provider Policy".

**Associated Documents:** "Family Rights and Responsibilities" (ELC Form SR-1019) and "VPK Child Eligibility and Enrollment Certificate" (AWI-VPK-02); Policy 408.2 "Informal Child Care Provider Policy".

**Citation History:** 45CFR98.30, Chapters 402.302-319, 411.01 5 (d) 3 b, and 411.01 (7) F.S. Chapter 60BB-4.100 (10 and 60BB-4.200 (4) F.A.C.