

## Message from the Early Learning Coalition

### This notice is about:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Important Deadline                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliance with State Requirement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free Resource(s)                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Opportunity         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Readiness, VPK or other Contract Compliance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational                     |

### **\*\*Reminder\*\***

During the 2016 Florida legislative session, laws were amended to assist with implementing the requirements of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014. The CCDBG provides the funding for the School Readiness Program.

The Florida legislature passed HB 1125, which relates to eligibility for employment as child care personnel. The bill, which **became effective July 1, 2016**, prohibits the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) from granting exemptions for employment as child care personnel to persons who have been:

- Registered as a sex offender as described in 42 U.S.C. s. 9858f(c)(1)(C) and are subject to the registration requirements under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act; or
- Arrested for and are awaiting final disposition of, found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, or have been adjudicated delinquent and the record has not been sealed or expunged, for certain state felonies and misdemeanor enumerated in the bill that are aligned with crimes listed in the federal requirements.

Individuals employed as child care personnel who currently have exemptions from DCF allowing employment, are now prohibited from such employment and must be rescreened.

Providers should check the Background Screening Result letters for program staff and verify that the DCF Eligibility reflects "**DCF Child Care Eligible**". The Early Learning Coalition will only accept and certify those child care personnel who have this designation on their screening results.

Providers who have program staff who **do not** have the "**DCF Child Care Eligible**" designation, will need to contact DCF at (888) 352-2849

or visit <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/backgroundscreening/> for instructions on how to proceed.

For additional information on the background screening/rescreening requirements, please see:

[Background Screening/Rescreening Requirements](#)



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