



STATE OF FLORIDA
STATEWIDE SCHOOL READINESS PROVIDER CONTRACT
FORM OEL-SR 20

I. PARTIES AND TERMS OF CONTRACT

1. **Parties.** This Contract is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 20_____, by and between the Early Learning Coalition of _____ (herein referred to as “COALITION”), and _____ (herein referred to as “PROVIDER”), with its principal offices located at _____.
- a. Multiple Public School Locations.** If PROVIDER is a school district executing a single Contract on behalf of multiple public school School Readiness (SR) program providers, a list of their names and their physical addresses are included in Exhibit 1: Provider Location List. Thereafter, PROVIDER shall include each location listed in Exhibit 1.
- b. Multiple Private Locations.** If PROVIDER is executing a single Contract on behalf of multiple private SR provider sites within COALITION’s service area, a list of their names and their physical addresses are included in Exhibit 1: Provider Location List. Thereafter, PROVIDER shall include each location listed in Exhibit 1.
- c. Employer Identification Number.** Insert PROVIDER’s EIN here: _____. If PROVIDER does not have an EIN, PROVIDER must insert PROVIDER’s Social Security Number (SSN) here _____. PROVIDER’s EIN or SSN is requested in accordance with sections (ss.) 119.071(5)(a)2. and 119.092, F.S., for use in the records and data systems of the Office of Early Learning and COALITION. Submission of PROVIDER’s EIN or SSN is mandatory. PROVIDER’s EIN or SSN will be used for processing payments to PROVIDER as an SR provider, for reporting those payments for federal tax purposes, and for routine identification. If PROVIDER completes Exhibit 1 listing multiple locations with multiple EIN numbers, this paragraph may be left blank.
2. **Purpose.** This Contract is designed to inform PROVIDER of the requirements of participation in the SR Program. Payment is not conveyed to PROVIDER through this Contract. PROVIDER must agree to comply with the terms and conditions of this Contract in order to be eligible to participate in the SR program. This contract is to engage an eligible provider to provide SR services to eligible SR children.
3. **Term.** This Contract begins on _____ of the fiscal year (20_____) or on the date on which the Contract is signed by the last party required to sign the Contract, whichever occurs last, and the Contract ends on (COALITION select one) June 30th of the fiscal year 20_____ or the last day of the month twelve (12) months after the effective date of the contract as indicated herein.
4. **Payment Limitations.** PROVIDER will not receive nor be entitled to payment for SR program services performed before this Contract is fully executed by both parties or after expiration of the Contract.

5. **Applicable Law.** PROVIDER and COALITION agree that the following, including any revision made after the execution of this Contract, are the provisions governing the SR program and that PROVIDER and COALITION will be bound by the same:
- 42 U.S.C. §9858, et seq.;
 - 45 C.F.R. §98;
 - 45 C.F.R. §99;
 - Chapter 1002, Florida Statutes;
 - Chapter 6M-4, Florida Administrative Code; and
 - Chapter 6M-9, Florida Administrative Code.
6. **Not Transferrable.** This Contract is not transferrable or assignable to another entity, corporation, or owner without the prior written approval of the COALITION. A change in corporate ownership shall be deemed a transfer. Failure to obtain the prior written approval of COALITION shall be considered an immediate and serious danger to the health, safety, or welfare of children, which is grounds for emergency termination of this Contract as described in paragraph 58. This Contract binds the successors, assigns, and legal representatives of PROVIDER and of any legal entity that succeeds to the obligations of the State of Florida, Office of Early Learning, and COALITION.

II. PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

7. General Eligibility

- a. **Provider Type.** To be eligible to deliver the school readiness program, PROVIDER must be one of the provider types identified in section (s.) 1002.88(1)(a), F.S., listed below. Check the box to indicate PROVIDER's type:

A child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, F.S. (Form OEL-SR 20L is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

A family day care home licensed or registered under s. 402.313, F.S. (Form OEL-SR 20L is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

A large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, F.S. (Form OEL-SR 20L is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

A public school or nonpublic school exempt from licensure under s. 402.3025, F.S. (Form OEL-SR 20LE is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

A faith-based child care provider exempt from licensure under s. 402.316, F.S. (Form OEL-SR 20LE is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

A before-school or after-school program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), F.S.

For a licensed before-school or after-school program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), F.S., Form OEL-SR 20L must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.

For a license exempt or programs that are not required to be licensed as described in Rule 65C-22.008, F.A.C., before-school or after-school program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), F.S., Form OEL-SR 20LE must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.

An informal child care provider to the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and Development Fund Plan as approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s. 98.18. (Form OEL-SR 20FFN is hereby incorporated by reference and must be completed as an authorized attachment to this Contract.)

- b. Eligibility Pursuant to s. 1002.91(5), F.S.** PROVIDER represents that PROVIDER, or an owner, officer, or board director thereof, has not been convicted of, found guilty of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S., within the last five (5) years and is not acting as the beneficial owner for someone who has been convicted of, found guilty of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S., within the last five (5) years.
- c. Eligibility Pursuant to s. 1002.91(7), F.S.** PROVIDER represents that PROVIDER is not on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List nor does PROVIDER share an officer or board director with a provider that is on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List.

III. PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES AND SCOPE OF WORK

- 8. Child Enrollment.** PROVIDER agrees to enroll children for the SR Program only with written authorization from COALITION which will be provided in the form of a child care certificate. PROVIDER also understands that it will not be reimbursed for services provided to a child beyond the service begin and end date identified by COALITION on the child care certificate, or if the child's eligibility is terminated prior to the end date. As described in s. 1002.87(2), F.S., PROVIDER also agrees to serve children enrolled into its SR program according to the services and location established by COALITION on the child care certificate indicating authorized hours of care. In the event that PROVIDER has multiple locations, PROVIDER shall notify and obtain approval in writing from COALITION prior to changing the location where the child shall be served.
- 9. Child Care.** PROVIDER agrees to provide child care to enrolled children at the care level designated by the child care certificate received from the COALITION. Pursuant to 45 C.F.R s. 98.2, child care is defined as the care given to an eligible child by an eligible child care provider. PROVIDER will comply with all applicable state and federal laws, regulations and other standards and requirements in providing child care services under this agreement.
- 10. Instruction and Activities.** In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(b), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to offer instruction and activities to enhance the age-appropriate progress of each child in attaining the child development standards established by the *Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards: Birth to Five*, Form OEL-SR 30, adopted by the Office of Early Learning in Rule

6M-4.700, F.A.C. PROVIDER agrees to include activities to foster brain development in infants and toddlers; provide an environment that is rich in language and appropriate and child-friendly music and filled with objects of various colors, shapes, textures, and sizes to stimulate visual, tactile, auditory, and linguistic senses; and include at least thirty (30) minutes of reading to children each day.

11. General Health and Safety. Provider agrees to provide a healthy and safe environment for children in care pursuant to s. 402.305(5), (6), and (7), F.S., as applicable, and as verified pursuant to s. 402.311, F.S. Health and Safety requirements are specifically addressed in each provider type attachment.

12. Smoke Free Environment. In accordance with Part C of Public Law 107-110 (No Child Left Behind), the “Pro-Children Act of 2001,” no child care facility shall permit smoking within any indoor facility (or portion of such facility) operated by PROVIDER, to provide routine child care or early childhood development services to children. This does not apply to any portion of such facility that is used for a private residence. Individuals in violation are subject to a \$1,000 fine, administrative compliance or both.

13. Curriculum. In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(f), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to use the following state-approved curriculum or curricula in the provision of the SR Program:

edition or date: _____.

If PROVIDER is using different curricula at different PROVIDER sites listed in Exhibit 1, PROVIDER must complete the column in Exhibit 1 indicating the name of the curriculum or curricula being used at each site. If PROVIDER is offering school age programs exclusively, PROVIDER may insert “Not Applicable” in the space provided.

14. Character Development Program. In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(g), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to implement the following character development program to develop basic values:

edition or date: _____.

If PROVIDER is using a different program at different PROVIDER sites listed in Exhibit 1, PROVIDER must complete the column in Exhibit 1 indicating the name of the character development program being used at each site. If PROVIDER is offering school age programs exclusively, PROVIDER may insert “Not Applicable” in the space provided.

15. Developmental Screenings. PROVIDER acknowledges that _____ is responsible for conducting developmental screenings for each child aged six weeks to kindergarten eligibility in accordance with Rule 6M-4.720, F.A.C. In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(h), F.S., PROVIDER must collaborate with COALITION to complete initial screening for each child, aged six weeks to kindergarten eligibility, within forty-five (45) days after the child's first or subsequent enrollment, to identify a child who may need individualized supports. PROVIDER acknowledges that COALITION is responsible for initiating individualized services, including but not limited to providing referrals, based on child screening results. PROVIDER and COALITION acknowledge that pursuant to s. 1002.84(5), F.S., screening shall not be a requirement of entry into the school readiness program and shall be only given with parental consent.

Subsequent Screenings. PROVIDER acknowledges that _____ is responsible for subsequent screenings. Subsequent screening will be conducted at a minimum, annually in

the month of the child's birthday or at time of redetermination in accordance with Rule 6M-4.720, F.A.C.

- 16. Prohibited Forms of Discipline.** In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(i), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to implement minimum standards for child discipline practices that are age-appropriate and consistent with the requirements in s. 402.305(12), F.S. Such standards must provide that children not be subjected to discipline that is severe, humiliating or frightening. The discipline must not be associated with food, rest or toileting. Spanking or any other form of physical punishment is prohibited. Children may not be denied active play as a consequence of misbehavior.
- 17. Child Immunizations and Health Screenings.** In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(j), F.S., within thirty (30) calendar days of enrolling a child, PROVIDER agrees to obtain and retain information from the parent regarding the child's age-appropriate immunizations, physical development and other health requirements as indicated on the Student Health Examination form DH 3040 and Florida Certification of Immunization form Part A-1, B, or C DH 680 or the Religious Exemption from Immunization form DH 681.
- 18. Program Operation.** In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(k), F.S., if PROVIDER offers before-school or after-school programs, PROVIDER agrees those programs shall meet or exceed the requirements of s. 402.305(5), (6), and (7), F.S. In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(q), F.S., and as identified in Exhibit 3, PROVIDER agrees to operate on a full-time and part-time basis and provide extended-day and extended-year services to the maximum extent possible without compromising the quality of the program to meet the needs of parents who work.
- 19. Workers' Compensation and Unemployment Compensation.** In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(n), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to obtain and maintain any required workers' compensation insurance under Chapter 440, F.S., and any required reemployment assistance or unemployment compensation coverage under Chapter 443, F.S. PROVIDER agrees to provide the COALITION with evidence of worker's compensation insurance coverage.
- 20. Sign-In/Sign-Out Process.** PROVIDER agrees to maintain daily attendance documentation, including a documented "sign-in/sign-out" process approved by COALITION and implemented by PROVIDER, and which accurately documents attendance and absences. PROVIDER agrees to retain the attendance documentation in accordance with COALITION's records retention requirement established in accordance with s. 1002.84(10), F.S.
- 21. Child Absences.** In accordance with s. 1002.87(8), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to notify COALITION in writing if a child enrolled is absent for five (5) consecutive days with no contact from the parent by the close of the fifth (5th) day. In accordance with ss. 1002.81(5) and 1002.87(7), F.S., if the need for care cannot be re-established, then the COALITION will notify the PROVIDER and the parent that school readiness funding will be discontinued. The end of eligibility for funded child care services will be fourteen (14) days from the fifth (5th) day that the child was not in attendance with no contact from the parent.
- 22. Rilya Wilson Act and At-Risk Children.** In accordance with s. 1002.87(9), F.S., PROVIDER agrees to abide by the provisions of the "Rilya Wilson Act" (s. 39.604, F.S.) for each at-risk child under the age of school entry who is enrolled in the school readiness program.

- 23. Parental Choice.** PROVIDER agrees that the parent has the right to choose the provider of child care services for his/her children. In the event the parent chooses to change to a different SR PROVIDER, it is within the parent’s rights to do so, except as limited by s. 1002.84(8), F.S., as described in paragraph 46.c.
- 24. Parental Access.** PROVIDER agrees to afford authorized parents unlimited access to their children in SR programs, during normal hours of provider operation and whenever the children are in the care of the provider. Access may be subject to appropriate safety procedures.
- 25. Statewide Information System.** PROVIDER agrees to utilize the statewide information system as referenced in s. 1002.82(2)(n), F.S., as available, to submit information and updates regarding the SR program.
- 26. Child Care Resource and Referral.** PROVIDER agrees to participate in the annual update process coordinated by each Child Care Resource and Referral agency as described in Rule 6M-9.300(5) and (6), F.A.C.
- 27. Direct Deposit.** PROVIDER agrees to provide information necessary to facilitate direct deposit in order to receive SR reimbursement for services rendered. PROVIDER agrees to provide alternative reimbursement arrangements if PROVIDER chooses to opt out of Direct Deposit.
- 28. Deliverables**

| Deliverable | Tasks and Activities | Due Date | Payment |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1. One month of child care services | Child enrollment activities per the requirements in section III | Monthly | Per the level of service: established by the child care certificate provided to the PROVIDER by the COALITION; at the rates specified in Exhibit 3: Provider Reimbursement Rates; and documented through an approved monthly attendance report |
| | Instruction and activities per the requirements in section III | | |
| | Health and safety activities per the requirements in section III | | |
| | Use of curriculum per the requirements in section III | | |
| | Character development activities per the requirements in section III | | |
| 2. Monthly attendance report | Monthly attendance report submitted by the PROVIDER to the COALITION per the requirements in section VII | Monthly by the day indicated in section VII | N/A |
| 3. Proof of Developmental Screening | If applicable: | | N/A |
| Applies to providers responsible for | Developmental screenings for each child aged six weeks to | Within 45 days after the child’s | |

| Deliverable | Tasks and Activities | Due Date | Payment |
|---|---|---|----------------|
| developmental screening as indicated in section III | kindergarten eligibility per the requirements in section III. | first or subsequent enrollment | |
| Proof of Developmental Screening (continued) | Subsequent screenings conducted annually in month of child's birthday. | Annually | |
| | PROVIDER shall submit the child's screening results to the COALITION | Within thirty (30) calendar days of completion of screening | |
| | Enter the data into an electronic system | Within sixty (60) calendar days after screening | |
| | PROVIDER shall provide in writing the screening results for each child to the child's parent. | | |

IV. COALITION RESPONSIBILITIES

29. **Training and Technical Assistance.** COALITION will notify PROVIDER of the availability of training, technical assistance, and other targeted assistance in support of the provision of quality SR services.
30. **Developmental and Subsequent Screenings.** Applicable if PROVIDER is responsible for Developmental Screenings and Subsequent Screenings as indicated in paragraph 15. COALITION shall give notification to PROVIDER a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date the child must be screened. COALITION will have staff persons available to explain screening results if required by a parent.
31. **Child Eligibility.** COALITION has ultimate responsibility for determining the eligibility of children enrolling in the SR program. COALITION will issue forms that make up a child care certificate (also known as a payment certificate), as described in s. 1002.82(6)(b) and (c), F.S., to the parent of each eligible child who enrolls in the SR program.
32. **Limitations on Authority.** COALITION may not impose any requirement on PROVIDER that exceeds the authority provided under Chapter 1002, F.S., or rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 1002, F.S.; or require PROVIDER to administer a preassessment or postassessment.
33. **Monitoring.** COALITION will monitor PROVIDER for compliance with this Contract and the provisions governing the SR program listed in paragraph 5., in accordance with s. 1002.85(2)(h), F.S. PROVIDER will be monitored in accordance with the COALITION monitoring plan, or in response to a parental complaint.

V. ACCESS

34. **Physical Access.** PROVIDER agrees to allow the Office of Early Learning and COALITION staff or sub-contractors immediate access to the facilities and spaces used to offer the SR Program during normal business hours, except as otherwise restricted by government facilities.
35. **Records Access.** PROVIDER agrees to allow COALITION staff or sub-contractors and the Office of Early Learning to inspect and copy records pertaining to the SR Program during normal business hours and upon request by COALITION or the Office of Early Learning. Records that are stored off-site shall be provided within seventy-two (72) hours.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS, DATA, AND CONFIDENTIALITY

36. **Record Confidentiality.** PROVIDER agrees to protect the confidentiality of child and family information. PROVIDER agrees to have all staff complete confidentiality agreements and have processes in place to protect the privacy of child and family information. Confidentiality agreements will be maintained by the PROVIDER and provided to the COALITION upon request. Information associated with the SR Program shall only be made available in accordance with the restrictions of s. 1002.97, F.S. For the purposes of records of children enrolled in the SR Program, this Contract is considered an interagency agreement for the purpose of implementing the SR Program as described in s. 1002.97(3)(g), F.S. Accordingly, to the extent that PROVIDER receives school readiness records in order to carry out its official functions, PROVIDER must maintain and protect the data as required in s. 1002.97, F.S., and as explained below. Individuals and organizations eligible to receive records include PROVIDER, the parent, COALITION, Office of Early Learning, and other entities identified in s. 1002.97, F.S.
37. **Record Maintenance.** PROVIDER agrees to maintain records, including sign in and sign out documentation, enrollment and attendance certification, documentation to support excused absences and proof of parent co-payments for children funded by the SR program. The records must be maintained for audit purposes for a period of five (5) years from the date of the last reimbursement request for that fiscal year or until the resolution of any audit findings or any litigation related to this Contract, whichever occurs last. PROVIDER may maintain records in an electronic medium and if the PROVIDER does so, then the PROVIDER shall back up records on a regular basis to safeguard against loss.
38. **Record Transfer on Termination.** In the event that PROVIDER permanently ceases to offer the SR program before the conclusion of the retention period for SR records as described in paragraph 37, whether as a result of unilateral or mutual termination of PROVIDER's eligibility to offer the SR program or as a result of PROVIDER ceasing to do business, PROVIDER shall transfer all SR records required to be maintained under paragraph 37. to COALITION no later than the close of business on the day PROVIDER ceases to offer the SR program.

VII. COMPENSATION and FUNDING

39. **Method of Payment.** PROVIDER reimbursement for eligible children will be based on the child care certificate (also known as a payment certificate) issued by COALITION and presented by a parent, and through the use of the procedures outlined herein.
40. **Reimbursement Rates Established.** PROVIDER agrees to provide documentation of its published private child care rates included in Exhibit 3. PROVIDER agrees to accept the

approved PROVIDER reimbursement rate which is the lesser of the COALITION maximum reimbursement rate established by COALITION and approved by Office of Early Learning, identified in Exhibit 3. PROVIDER is paid based on budget availability, at the approved PROVIDER reimbursement rate less any parent co-payments assessed by COALITION as reflected on the child care certificate.

41. **Gold Seal Rate.** PROVIDER agrees to provide documentation of its Gold Seal Quality Designation. Gold Seal providers shall receive the Gold Seal rate identified in Exhibit 3 for all care levels which have received a Gold Seal Quality Designation.
42. **Special Needs Rate.** PROVIDER will receive a special needs rate identified in Exhibit 3 when providing services to a child with an identified special need. A special need child is defined as a child who has been determined eligible as a child with a disability in accordance with Chapter 6A-6, F.A.C., and is participating in a program for children with disabilities provided by the school district or a child who has an individualized educational plan (IEP) or family support plan (FSP).
43. **Rate Changes and Limitations.** PROVIDER agrees to report any changes in its published child care rates or its Gold Seal status, if applicable. PROVIDER acknowledges that COALITION is prohibited from making payments, inclusive of Gold Seal or special needs rate differentials, which would cumulatively exceed PROVIDER's private payment rate. In the event that any information submitted by PROVIDER in Exhibit 3 changes, PROVIDER must notify COALITION in writing of the change no later than close of business on the day of the change. COALITION may amend PROVIDER's reimbursement rate based on the information submitted by PROVIDER or any of the factors identified in this paragraph. COALITION must notify PROVIDER, in writing, of any change in reimbursement rate at least thirty (30) calendar days before the change is implemented.
44. **Rates and Fees for Parents.** PROVIDER acknowledges that it is prohibited from charging parents receiving SR services a higher rate than that charged to private pay parents. In addition to the parent co-payment assessed by COALITION, PROVIDER must provide the parent with a list of any fees it charges and, if applicable, written notice of the difference between the private pay rate and SR reimbursement, prior to the parent enrolling his/her child in PROVIDER's SR program. PROVIDER is prohibited from charging any fees other than the parent co-payment or those fees provided to the parent on the fee list described above.
45. **Military Subsidies.** PROVIDER agrees that it will notify COALITION if it receives military subsidy payments through or from the Child Care Aware of America[®] (formally NACCRRRA) or any legal successor organizations, on behalf of any child enrolled in PROVIDER's SR program. PROVIDER understands that its SR reimbursement rate may be changed as a result of receipt of such military subsidy payments. If PROVIDER fails to report receipt of such military subsidy payments, PROVIDER will be subject to fraud investigation for violation of the requirements of the SR program.
46. **Co-payment.** As required by s. 1002.84(8), F.S., and Rule 6M-4.401, F.A.C., PROVIDER shall collect the assessed parent co-payment in accordance with Rule 6M-4.400, F.A.C., from the parent.
 - a. **Co-payment Amount.** The amount of the co-payment which must be collected for each child is included on his or her child care certificate. In the event that an assessed parent co-

payment is changed by COALITION, COALITION will send the PROVIDER written notice of the change. Only co-payment changes from the COALITION are valid.

- b. Co-payment Assessment and Collection.** Assessed parent co-payments are automatically deducted from PROVIDER's monthly reimbursement. PROVIDER is required to collect parent co-payments.
- c. Co-payment Documentation.** PROVIDER must give the parent a receipt for each co-payment made by the parent and retain receipt records for all child care co-payments. Upon request, PROVIDER shall provide a current accounting and copy of co-payment receipt records to the COALITION. COALITION will use this documentation to ensure parents who transfer their children to another child care provider have met their co-payment obligations before receiving additional school readiness services.

- 47. Holiday Schedule.** PROVIDER agrees to follow the holiday schedule approved by COALITION for PROVIDER's program, which includes _____ days per year as set forth in Exhibit 4: Holiday Schedule and understands that these are the only holidays for which PROVIDER will receive reimbursement. Pursuant to Rule 6M-4.500, F.A.C., reimbursement may be made for up to twelve (12) recognized holidays per year.
- 48. Attendance Documentation Submission.** PROVIDER agrees to submit monthly attendance reports for payment. PROVIDER agrees to submit all required attendance records to COALITION on or before the third (3rd) business day of each month. If the due date falls on a holiday, PROVIDER agrees to submit all required attendance records to COALITION on the preceding business day. Records submitted late will be processed and paid in the next open payment cycle.
- 49. Reimbursement Summary Review.** PROVIDER agrees to review the reimbursement summary provided with the monthly reimbursement statement. PROVIDER agrees to report to COALITION any discrepancy, overpayment, or underpayment within sixty (60) calendar days of transmission of the reimbursement summary.
- 50. Emergency Temporary Closure.** PROVIDER agrees all requests for compensation for temporary closures beyond PROVIDER's control will be handled in accordance with Rule 6M-4.501, F.A.C.
- 51. Disallowed Costs.** Any disallowed expenditure may be deducted from any future reimbursement. PROVIDER agrees to return to COALITION any funds received as a result of error or overpayment or disallowed cost. If PROVIDER ceases to offer the SR Program before the payment is fully recovered, PROVIDER agrees to return the funds it was overpaid. If PROVIDER fails to return the funds it was overpaid, PROVIDER shall be subject to collection efforts and/or funds may be obtained from other early learning programs. PROVIDER shall have an opportunity to substantiate or appeal the decision of a questioned or disallowed cost. Any unresolved questioned costs may become disallowed costs.
- 52. Head Start Agencies.** If PROVIDER is a Head Start Agency, PROVIDER understands that, in accordance with federal law, PROVIDER's Head Start programs must be "in addition to, and not in substitution for, comparable services previously provided without Federal assistance." (42 U.S.C., s. 9835(c))

- 53. Title 20 Schools.** If PROVIDER receives federal funds under Title 20, United States Code, ss. 6311-6322, PROVIDER understands that, in accordance with federal law, PROVIDER may use “Federal funds to supplement, [but] not [to] supplant non-Federal funds.” (20 U.S.C., s. 6314(a)(3)(B))

VIII. FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES

- 54.** As a result of PROVIDER’s failure to provide the minimum level of services required by this Contract, COALITION shall temporarily withhold reimbursement, disallow all or part of services not in compliance with the terms of this contract or terminate the contract.

IX. NONDISCRIMINATION

- 55. Discrimination Prohibited.** PROVIDER agrees not to discriminate against children, families and staff on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic background, sex, religious affiliation, or disability. PROVIDER will comply with the terms of 45 C.F.R. §98.47 regarding non-discrimination against staff persons on the basis of religion.

X. NONCOMPLIANCE, PROBATION AND TERMINATION

56. Noncompliance Determination.

- a. Corrective Action Notice.** If COALITION determines PROVIDER has failed to comply with the provisions governing the SR program as described in paragraph 5. or the requirements of this Contract, and COALITION concludes that corrective action will resolve the failure to comply, COALITION must notify PROVIDER in writing. (“Corrective action” means implementation of specific action(s) designed to correct the failure to meet a specific requirement.) The notice must identify the specific requirement(s) which PROVIDER failed to meet and describe how PROVIDER failed to meet each requirement. In addition, the notice must provide a detailed description of any required corrective action and set a deadline for completion of the corrective action. Finally, the notice must state that PROVIDER may request a review of the determination as described in paragraph 64. Upon determining that the PROVIDER has satisfactorily completed the corrective action, the COALITION shall notify the PROVIDER in writing.
- b. Probation.** If COALITION concludes that PROVIDER has received a corrective action notice for the same violation two or more times or have had multiple corrective action plans within the contract year or if the corrective action plan is not completed within the prescribed timelines, PROVIDER shall be placed on probation for a period up to six (6) months. Probation may include one or more of the following conditions: training or staff development, monitoring or technical assistance by COALITION or submission of documentation related to the violation. COALITION must notify PROVIDER in writing of the terms and duration of the probation, including required timelines. The terms of the probation must correlate to the basis of the corrective action.

57. Termination for Cause.

a. Basis of Termination for Cause. PROVIDER agrees that COALITION has the right to terminate this Contract for cause at any time. The following are grounds for termination for cause: (a) Action, or lack of action, which threatens the health, safety or welfare of children; (b) The material failure to comply with the terms of this Contract, including, but not limited to, failure to implement corrective action or comply with the terms of probation as described in paragraph 56 above; (c) The refusal to accept any notice described under this Contract which COALITION is required to send to PROVIDER; or (d) Reasonable or probable cause for COALITION to suspect that fraud has been committed by PROVIDER as described in paragraph 63.

b. Notice of Termination for Cause. In order to terminate PROVIDER for cause, COALITION must send a written notice of termination for cause to PROVIDER. Such notice must be sent, with proof of delivery, at least five (5) business days before termination. The notice must state the date of, and the specific basis for, termination. Finally, the notice must state that PROVIDER may request a review of the determination as described in paragraph 64. Notwithstanding PROVIDER's refusal of delivery of the notice, this Contract shall be terminated on the date identified in the notice. COALITION shall document any refusal of delivery.

58. Emergency Termination. COALITION must immediately terminate this Contract on an emergency basis upon notification by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or local licensing agency that actions or inactions of a PROVIDER pose an immediate and serious danger to the health, safety, or welfare of children. COALITION will terminate this Contract on an emergency basis by sending PROVIDER written notice of emergency termination at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to termination. The written notice must specifically state the basis of COALITION's determination. Finally, the notice must state that PROVIDER may request a review of the determination as described in paragraph 64.

59. Revocation of Eligibility. In accordance with s. 1002.88(2), F.S., if PROVIDER's Contract is terminated under paragraph 56., 57., or 58., COALITION may revoke PROVIDER's eligibility to deliver the school readiness program for a period of five (5) years. In determining whether to revoke PROVIDER'S eligibility, the COALITION shall consider the following factors: the severity of the PROVIDER'S actions leading to the termination of the contract, the health, safety and welfare of children enrolled at the PROVIDER, the financial impact of the PROVIDER'S actions, the impact that the revocation would have upon the local community, consistency with COALITION'S actions against other PROVIDERS for similar violations of the Contract or program requirements, the length of time that PROVIDER provided services under contract with the COALITION, and whether the PROVIDER had previously violated there terms of this Contract and prior contracts with the COALITION. COALITION shall provide notice of its intent to revoke PROVIDER'S eligibility at the same time that it provides written notice of intent to terminate the contract to PROVIDER.

60. Termination of Contract by Provider. PROVIDER and COALITION may agree to terminate this Contract by mutual consent or PROVIDER may unilaterally terminate this Contract at will. Written notice of termination must be given and alternative arrangements for uninterrupted services shall be made at least thirty (30) calendar days before the termination date for children

served under this Contract. If sufficient notice of termination is not provided, COALITION may refuse to issue the final reimbursement payment to PROVIDER.

- 61. Legislative Appropriation.** Any obligation for payment under this Contract is contingent upon an appropriation by the Florida Legislature. If funds required to finance this Contract are unavailable, COALITION shall terminate this Contract after providing written notice, with proof of delivery, at least twenty-four (24) hours before termination of this Contract. In the event of termination of this Contract under this paragraph, PROVIDER shall be paid for the documented SR hours completed prior to termination of this Contract.
- 62. Eligible Child Care Provider.** In order to receive state or federal funds under this Contract, PROVIDER must be an eligible child care provider as defined under 45 C.F.R. §98.2. Failure to maintain status as an eligible child care provider shall be considered an immediate and serious danger to the health, safety, or welfare of children, which is grounds for emergency termination of this Contract as described in paragraph 58. PROVIDER certifies that each location at which PROVIDER offers the SR program is an eligible child care provider. PROVIDER agrees to notify COALITION immediately if it ceases to be an eligible child care provider.
- 63. Fraud.**

 - a. Anti-Fraud Plan.** PROVIDER agrees to comply with the anti-fraud plan established by COALITION in accordance with s. 1002.91, F.S.
 - b. Payment Certificate Fraud Investigation.** In accordance with s. 1002.82(6)(d), F.S., if it is determined that PROVIDER has given any cash or other consideration to the beneficiary in return for receiving a payment certificate, COALITION or its fiscal agent shall refer the matter to the Department of Financial Services pursuant to s. 414.411, F.S., for investigation.
 - c. Suspension for Suspected Fraud.** In accordance with s. 1002.91(4), F.S., COALITION may suspend or terminate PROVIDER from participation in the school readiness program when it has reasonable cause to believe that PROVIDER has committed fraud. PROVIDER may request a review of COALITION's determination to suspend PROVIDER as described in paragraph 64. If suspended, PROVIDER shall remain suspended until the completion of any investigation by the Office of Early Learning, the Department of Financial Services, or any other state or federal agency, and any subsequent prosecution or other legal proceeding.
 - d. Termination for Fraud.** In accordance with s. 1002.91(5), F.S., if PROVIDER, or an owner, officer, or board director thereof, is convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S., or is acting as the beneficial owner for someone who has been convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S., the COALITION shall refrain from contracting with, or using the services of, PROVIDER for a period of five (5) years. In addition, COALITION shall refrain from contracting with, or using the services of, any provider that shares an officer or board director with a provider that is convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S. for a period of five (5) years.
 - e. Termination for National Disqualification.** In accordance with s. 1002.91(7), F.S., if PROVIDER is placed on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified

List, COALITION must terminate this Contract for cause. In addition, if PROVIDER shares an officer or board director with a provider that is on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List, COALITION must terminate this Contract for cause.

- 64. Due Process Procedures.** PROVIDER may request a review of determinations made by COALITION under this Contract. Reviews will be conducted in accordance with Exhibit 5: Due Process Procedures. While a request for a review is being examined, PROVIDER is not required to implement corrective action. In accordance with s. 1002.82(2)(m), F.S., PROVIDER may not offer any School Readiness services while a request for a review regarding termination of PROVIDER's School Readiness Contract is being examined.
- 65. Severability of Provider Location.** If PROVIDER has executed this Contract on behalf of multiple locations and one or more of the locations is terminated pursuant to Section X of this Contract, then in lieu of re-executing a new contract for the remaining locations, COALITION may modify Exhibit 1 to indicate which location(s) previously part of this Contract has been removed by striking through the location(s), initialing and dating in the "official use only" column. COALITION shall provide a copy of the revised Exhibit 1 showing any stricken locations to the PROVIDER. This Contract shall remain in full force and effect as to all other locations on Exhibit 1 which have not been stricken.
- 66. Litigation and Venue.** In the event that PROVIDER believes that this Contract has been inappropriately terminated, or in the event of a breach of this Contract, any available remedies may be pursued in a court of competent jurisdiction. COALITION and PROVIDER agree that any litigation related to this Contract which is brought by COALITION or PROVIDER will be brought in a county within COALITION's geographical service area.

XI. NOTIFICATION

- 67. Information Change Notification.** PROVIDER agrees to report any changes in contact or program information within fourteen (14) calendar days or temporary emergency closings of the SR program within two (2) calendar days. Permanent business closings or changes in business location or ownership must be reported at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to changes. PROVIDER agrees to provide program and business information annually for inclusion in the Child Care Resource and Referral Network and is responsible for ensuring that COALITION has up-to-date business and contact (including emergency contact) information.
- 68. Unusual Incident Notification.** PROVIDER agrees to report unusual incidents to COALITION by no later than the close of business on the next business day of the unusual incident and to submit a written report to COALITION within three (3) business days from the date of the incident. For licensed providers, sending a copy of the incident report submitted for DCF to COALITION shall constitute compliance with this paragraph. An unusual incident is any significant event involving the health and safety of children under PROVIDER's care. Examples of unusual incidents include: accusations of abuse or neglect against PROVIDER or PROVIDER's staff; the injury of a child which requires professional medical attention at PROVIDER's site or written notification from the child's parent that the child received professional medical attention; and when PROVIDER receives notice of litigation where PROVIDER is named party or defendant and which relates to the PROVIDERs operation at any location at which SR services are being provided.
- 69. Notification of Disqualification or Public Assistance Fraud.**

- a. PROVIDER shall notify COALITION within five (5) calendar days if the PROVIDER is placed on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List, or if PROVIDER shares an officer or board director with a provider that is on the United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List.
- b. PROVIDER shall notify COALITION within five (5) calendar days if PROVIDER, or an owner, officer, or board director thereof, is convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S., or is acting as the beneficial owner for someone who has been convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, F.S.

70. Contact Persons.

- a. **Coalition Contact.** The representative for COALITION for the purposes of this Contract is _____ who can be contacted at _____ or by email at _____.
- b. **Provider Contact.** The representative for PROVIDER for the purposes of this Contract is _____ who can be contacted at _____ or by email at _____.
- c. **Contact Change.** In the event that either party designates different representatives after execution of this Contract, notice of the name and contact information of the new representative will be rendered in writing to the other party within ten (10) calendar days of change.

XII. INDEMNIFICATION

- 71. PROVIDER shall be fully liable for and indemnify, defend and hold harmless COALITION, the Office of Early Learning and all of their officers, directors, agents, contractors, subcontractors and employees from and against any and all third-party claims, suits, actions, damages, judgments and costs that arise whether in law or in equity, from any of the PROVIDER’s agents, subcontractors or employees’ acts, actions, neglect or omission during the performance or operations under this Contract or any subsequent modification thereof. This includes attorney’s fees and costs. This indemnification holds whether liability is direct or indirect and whether damage is to any person or real or personal tangible or intangible property. **If PROVIDER is a state agency, public school or school district, this paragraph is limited to the extent required by s. 768.28, F.S.**

XIII. SEVERABILITY

- 72. If any provision of this Contract is held to be unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining terms and conditions remain in full force and effect.

XIV. NO AMENDMENTS

- 73. No attachments, amendments, or supplements to this Contract are authorized or permitted, except those specifically incorporated by reference in this form, including Exhibit 1: Provider Location List; Exhibit 2: Required Documentation; Exhibit 3: Provider Reimbursement Rates;

Exhibit 4: Holiday Schedule; Exhibit 5: Due Process Procedures; and Form OEL-SR 20L, Form OEL-SR 20LE, or Form OEL-SR 20FFN, as described in paragraph 7.

(Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.)

XIV. EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

In accordance with s. 1002.88(1)(p), F.S., PROVIDER has caused this Contract to be executed as of the date set forth in Paragraph 1. By signing below, PROVIDER hereby certifies that PROVIDER has read and understood this Contract. PROVIDER certifies that all information provided is true and correct and agrees that noncompliance with the requirements of the School Readiness program including, but not limited to the requirements of this Contract, and all Exhibits and authorized attachments, shall result in corrective action, withholding of funds, or termination of this Contract at the discretion of COALITION, in accordance with Section X.

Warranty of Authority. Each person signing this contract warrants that he or she is duly authorized to do so and to bind the respective party to the contract.

**Signature of President/Vice President/
Secretary/Officer/Owner/Principal/or Other
Authorized Representative**
 By Electronic Signature

Print Name

Title

Date

**Provider’s Additional Signatory (If required by
the Provider)**
 By Electronic Signature

Print Name

Title

Date

COALITION has caused this Contract to be executed as of the date set forth in paragraph 1.

Signature of Authorized Coalition Representative
 By Electronic Signature

Print Name

Title

Date

Exhibit 1: Provider Location List

Provider Name: _____

If PROVIDER is executing this Contract on behalf of one physical location, mark this Exhibit “Not Applicable” in the box below.

Not Applicable.

If PROVIDER is a school district executing a single Contract on behalf of multiple public school School Readiness (SR) program providers, enter each name and physical location in the table below. If PROVIDER is executing a single Contract on behalf of multiple private SR sites within COALITION’s service area, enter each name and physical location in the table below. If PROVIDER is using a different curriculum or curricula at various sites, enter the name of the curriculum or curricula used at each site. Identify the character development Program used at each site, if character development is included in the curriculum or curricula indicate as “included.”

Note: PROVIDER may use multiple Exhibit 1 to list all locations that are included under this contract.

If COALITION determines a physical location to be ineligible to offer the SR program, COALITION will strike through the name and location in the table below and initial and date in the column titled “Official Use Only” and send a copy of this Exhibit to PROVIDER.

| Location Number (DCF/FEIN Number) | Location Name | Physical Address | Curriculum (Date/Edition) | Official Use Only |
|---|---------------|------------------|--|----------------------|
| | | | Character Development (Date/Edition) | |
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |
| 4. | | | | |
| 5. | | | | |
| 6. | | | | |
| 7. | | | | |

Exhibit 2: Required Documentation

Provider Name: _____

PROVIDER must mark the appropriate box in each section or subsection below. In addition, if PROVIDER is executing this Contract on behalf of multiple public schools or private provider sites, PROVIDER must mark the documentation with the corresponding Location Number from Exhibit 1.

1. Private Child Care Rates

- PROVIDER has provided a copy of its private child care rate information to COALITION with this Contract.

2. Gold Seal Rates

- PROVIDER has provided a copy of documentation related to its Gold Seal status, if applicable, to COALITION with this Contract.
- PROVIDER does not possess a Gold Seal Quality Care Designation.

3. Documentation of Eligible Child Care Provider

Private SR Providers

- PROVIDER has provided a copy of its Certificate of Licensure which includes a DCF identification number.
- PROVIDER has provided a copy of its Letter of Confirmation which includes a DCF exemption number.
- PROVIDER has provided a copy of its certificate of accreditation.
- PROVIDER certifies that it is not regulated by DCF and therefore does not require documentation from DCF.
- PROVIDER has provided evidence of liability insurance.

Public School, Private School, and Charter School SR Providers

- PROVIDER is a public school and has provided a copy of documentation showing its school district and public school number.
- PROVIDER is a private school and has provided a copy of its Certificate of Licensure which includes a DCF identification number or a Letter of Confirmation which includes a DCF exemption number.
- PROVIDER is a charter school and has provided a copy of its charter which includes preschool aged children as a service population and documentation showing its school district and school number.
- PROVIDER has provided evidence of liability insurance.

4. Specialized Program Type

- PROVIDER offers the Head Start program.
- PROVIDER does not offer the Head Start program.

5. IRS W-9 Form (Request for Taxpayer Identification Number).

6. Documentation of signature authority.

7. Current Sunbiz print-out identifying the office, director or authorized person(s).

Exhibit 3: Provider Reimbursement Rates

Provider Name: _____

Provider Operational Hours: _____

PROVIDER must mark the appropriate box below indicating the appropriate provider type. In addition, PROVIDER must mark whether or not it has a Gold Seal Quality Care Designation. Finally, PROVIDER must complete the table below marked “To be completed by PROVIDER.” COALITION will complete the remainder of the Exhibit.

Does PROVIDER have a Gold Seal Designation? Yes No

PROVIDER’s Private Pay Rates (To be Completed by PROVIDER)

| CARE LEVEL | (INF) <12 MTH | (TOD) 12<24 MTH | (2YR) 24<36 MTH | (PR3) 36<48 MTH | (PR4) 48<60 MTH | (PR5) 60<72 MTH | (SCH) In School | (SPCR) Special Needs |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Full-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Part-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Before or After School Rates | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | | | |

COALITION Maximum Reimbursement Rates (To be Completed by COALITION)

| CARE LEVEL | (INF) <12 MTH | (TOD) 12<24 MTH | (2YR) 24<36 MTH | (PR3) 36<48 MTH | (PR4) 48<60 MTH | (PR5) 60<72 MTH | (SCH) In School | (SPCR) Special Needs |
|--|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Full-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Full-Time Gold Seal Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Part-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Part-Time Gold Seal Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Before or After School Rates | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | | | |
| Full-Time VPK Wrap Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Part-Time VPK Wrap Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Approved PROVIDER Reimbursement Rate*
(To be Completed by COALITION)

| CARE LEVEL | (INF) <12 MTH | (TOD) 12<24 MTH | (2YR) 24<36 MTH | (PR3) 36<48 MTH | (PR4) 48<60 MTH | (PR5) 60<72 MTH | (SCH) In School | (SPCR) Special Needs |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Full-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Part-Time Daily Rates | | | | | | | | |
| Before or After School Rates | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | | | |
| Full-Time VPK Wrap Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Part-Time VPK Wrap Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | N/A | N/A | N/A |

**Note: Rate PROVIDER will be paid shall not exceed PROVIDER's Private Pay Rates for each category.*

Effective Date of Rates Established in This Exhibit _____

Exhibit 4: Holiday Schedule

Provider Name: _____

| Holiday | Date Observed |
|---------|---------------|
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If the holiday falls on a Saturday, the holiday is observed on the Friday preceding the holiday. If the holiday falls on a Sunday, the holiday is observed on the Monday following the holiday.

Exhibit 5: Due Process Procedures

Provider Name: _____

1. **Purpose of Exhibit.** Early Learning Coalitions are responsible for the local implementation of early learning programs funded with state and federal funds, such as the School Readiness Program and Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. Providers of such early learning programs may request a review of determinations made by an Early Learning Coalition in accordance with the due process procedures described below.
2. **Request for Review Hearing.** If a provider disputes any action taken by the Coalition pursuant to the terms of the Statewide School Readiness Provider Contract, the provider may request a review hearing in writing by sending it to the contact person listed in the Coalition's action. A review hearing is a "meeting" for the purposes of the Sunshine Law which is subject to public notice. During a review hearing, the provider will have a reasonable opportunity to address Coalition staff-persons or sub-contractor staff regarding the Coalition's action and to present supporting evidence before a Review Hearing Committee. Provider may have an attorney present at the review hearing to represent or advise the provider.
 - a. **Content of Request for Review Hearing.** The request for review hearing must state: the name and contact information of an individual authorized to provide information and binding responses on behalf of provider; the specific action by the Coalition that the provider disputes, the specific reasons for the provider's belief; and whether the provider will be represented by an attorney or another individual during the review hearing.
 - b. **Request Time.** The provider's request for a review hearing must be submitted in writing to the Coalition within five (5) business days of receipt of notice of the determination which the provider believes to be incorrect.
 - c. **Supporting Documentation.** The provider must send copies of any written documentation supporting the claims of the provider. Examples of relevant documentation may include, but are not limited to, attendance documentation, notarized attestations from parents, documentation from licensing or accrediting bodies, documents demonstrating dates of information submission, and a proposed corrective action plan.
3. **Implementation of Review.** If the Coalition receives a request for review hearing from the provider, the Coalition must address the request by taking the following steps.
 - a. **Assignment of Review Hearing Committee.** Within three (3) business days of receipt of a request for review hearing, the Coalition must assign a Review Hearing Committee to complete the review. The Review Hearing Committee must be composed of at least three but no more than five members of the Coalition Board. The Chair of the ELC shall appoint the Review Hearing Committee and shall name the chair of the committee. Three of the members must be a mandatory member as set forth in section 1002.83(4) with at least one provider representative member.
 - b. **Response to Request for Review Hearing.** Within five (5) business days of receipt of the request for review hearing, the Coalition must respond to the provider in writing,

return receipt requested. The notice must include at least three (3) proposed dates and times for the review hearing which must be within forty-five (45) days of the date of receipt of the request for review hearing. The notice must also state that the review hearing may be conducted in person at a location designated by the Coalition or via any method of telecommunications, as long as the public is given reasonable access to observe and, when appropriate, participate. Finally, the notice must state whether or not all of the Coalition staff persons or sub-contractor staff whom the provider wishes to have present during the hearing will be made available. If any individual who the provider requested to have present is not available, the Coalition must make available an individual who is qualified to address the subjects the provider wished the individual to address.

- c. Date and Location Selection.** Within five (5) business days of receipt of the response to a request for review hearing, the provider must inform the Coalition of the date and time which it selects for the review hearing and whether the provider will attend the meeting in person or via a method of telecommunication. Within five (5) business days of receipt of the response to a request for review hearing, if the provider is unable to attend any of the proposed dates and times for the review hearing, the provider must submit written notice which states the specific reasons that provider is unable to attend and must contact the Coalition to select a mutually agreed upon date for the review hearing. If the provider does not inform the Coalition of the date and time within the required time period, then the process is considered complete and the request is denied.
- d. Conducting the Review Hearing.** The Review Hearing Committee shall assess the claim(s) the provider made in its request for review by examining all information and documentation submitted by the provider. The provider must be given a reasonable opportunity to question Coalition staff-persons or sub-contractor staff regarding the determinations of the Coalition and to present evidence before the Review Hearing Committee. The Coalition will also be provided a reasonable opportunity to submit evidence to rebut any claims made by the provider.
- e. Notice of Review Hearing Conclusion.** Following completion of the presentation by the provider and the Coalition, the Review Hearing Committee will vote regarding each of the provider's claims. The Review Hearing Committee must also appoint a Review Hearing Committee member or a Coalition staff person to prepare a written notice of the review hearing conclusion. (If the notice is developed by a Coalition staff person, the notice must be reviewed by the Review Hearing Committee in a subsequent public meeting and approved before being sent to the provider.) The written notice must state the outcome of the Review Hearing Committee's vote regarding each of the provider's claims. In addition, the notice must specifically state the reasons supporting the Review Hearing Committee's conclusions. Finally, if the majority of the Review Hearing Committee determines:

 - i.** That no part of the determination made by the Coalition was correct, the notice must state provider is not required to take further action.
 - ii.** That any part of the determination made by the Coalition is correct, the notice must identify the portion(s) determined to be correct. As applicable, the notice must also state:

- A.** If corrective action is necessary, that the provider must take corrective action in regard to the part(s) which the Review Hearing Committee determines to be correct; and the revised deadlines for completion of the corrective action(s);
- B.** If the provider's School Readiness Contract or eligibility to offer the School Readiness Program will be terminated, the date of termination.

The decision of the Review Hearing Committee is final.