

Florida School Readiness Program



Program Highlights

- Prepares children to become ready for school
- Helps families become financially self-sufficient
- Offers child care assistance to income-eligible families
- Involves parents as their child's first teacher
- Provides parents with information on child development and other topics of interest
- Prepares children to enter kindergarten ready to learn, building a foundation for success in life

School Readiness Families

Participation in the School Readiness program is provided to children who meet one or more of the following eligibility criteria:

- Children of working families whose family income does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty level
- Children from families that receive temporary cash assistance and meet federal work requirements
- Children at risk of welfare dependency including economically disadvantaged children
- Children of participants in the welfare transition program
- Children younger than kindergarten age who are at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and/or at risk of future school failure
- Children of migrant farm workers
- Children of teen parents
- Children with disabilities and special health care needs

What are the Eligibility Requirements?

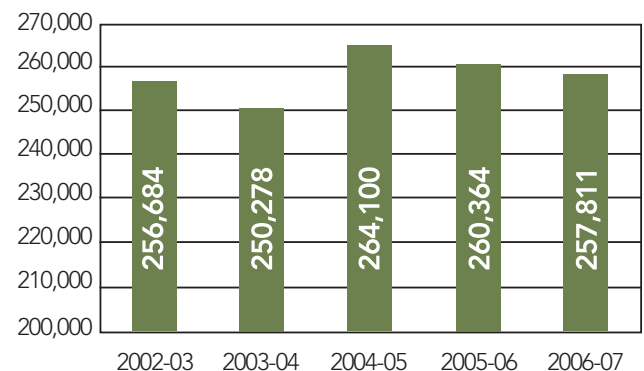
The School Readiness child care assistance program has two basic eligibility requirements based in state and federal laws and rules:

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be working or engaged in an educational activity at least 20 hours per week
- The family must meet the income guidelines based on the Federal Poverty Level per family size and most recent gross income. For more information on the Federal Poverty Level please visit <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/08poverty.shtml>

School Readiness: The Numbers

- More than \$500 million in federal and state funds is spent on the School Readiness program statewide
- Over 175,000 families are being served in the School Readiness Program in 2007-08
- Approximately 48,000 families applied for the School Readiness Program
- More than 57,000 families are on the waiting list (as of September 2007)
- 14,800 providers offer School Readiness services

Numbers of Children Participating in School Readiness



For more information about the *Florida School Readiness* program please call the **Agency for Workforce Innovation** at 1-866-357-3239 or visit www.flready.com.