

School Readiness Program Health and Safety Standards Handbook

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) substantially revised [Rule 6M-4.620, Florida Administrative Code \(F.A.C.\)](#), Health and Safety for School Readiness Providers to align with federal regulations. These revisions became effective on Sept. 26, 2023, and include:

- Replacing three School Readiness (SR) handbooks (OEL-SR-6202 HS Handbook Facilities, OEL-SR-6204 HS Handbook Public and Nonpublic Schools, and OEL-SR-6206 HS Handbook FCCH-Infomals) with Form DEL-SR-6200A, [School Readiness Program Health and Safety Standards Handbook](#) which references the applicable SR health and safety requirements found in the Department of Children and Families' handbooks and classification summaries, and
- Replacing three checklists (OEL-SR-6201 HS Checklist Facilities, OEL-SR-6203 Public and Nonpublic Schools, and OEL-SR-6205 HS Checklist FCCH-Infomals) with Form SR-6200B, [School Readiness Program Health and Safety Checklist](#) that is SR-specific and applies to all provider types.

Where do I locate my School Readiness Health and Safety Standards Handbook?

Step 1

Know your provider type. Licensed or License-Exempt? Child Care Facility, School-Age Facility, Family Day Care Home, Large Family Child Care Home, Registered Family Day Care Home or Informal Provider?

All child care programs must obtain a license or a letter from DCF or the local licensing agency (LLA) stating they are exempt from licensure and provide it to the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) prior to contracting for SR.

Providers that previously utilized the SR handbook and checklist for Public and Nonpublic Schools must refer to the appropriate DCF handbook and classification summary based upon their program type.

- If the program operates as a religious exempt facility for birth through school-age or a VPK wrap-around program (during the school day) at a public or non-public school, then they will use the [DCF Child Care Facility Handbook](#) and [Child Care Facility Standards Classification Summary](#).
- If the program operates as a before- and after-school program at a public or non-public school, a national membership program, a program for children in sixth grade and above or a religious exempt school-age facility, then they will use the [DCF School-age Child Care Facility Handbook](#) and [School-Age Child Care Facility Standards Classification Summary](#).

Step 2

Review [SR Handbook](#), Section 2.1, and [SR Checklist](#) to find the requirements for your provider type.

Licensed providers must follow all DCF licensing requirements. License-exempt child care facilities, license-exempt school-age facilities, registered homes and informal providers must meet the outlined standards and sub-standards that are required for SR inspections listed in B, D and F, as applicable, of Section 2.1 in the SR Handbook. All SR contracted providers must also meet the SR-specific requirements detailed in the SR Checklist.

Step 3

Locate the appropriate [DCF Licensing Handbook and Classification Summary](#).

Step 4

Identify the DCF standards and sub-standards and the SR-specific requirements to be monitored during an SR inspection of the program.

Questions? Contact your local ELC, licensing office or email DEL.Questions@del.fldoe.org.