



EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF BROWARD COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2024

Priority 2: Increase School Readiness Eligibility Threshold

- The cost of child care is expensive and a huge cost burden to most parents.
- Florida's low School Readiness eligibility threshold directly impacts the ability of parents to enter, stay, and thrive in the workforce.
- A two-parent household with two children in which both parents earn making minimum wage (\$12 per hour each) is over the income eligibility threshold and does NOT qualify for School Readiness funding Services.
- Florida's low eligibility threshold forces parents to choose between which vital household costs they afford, contributing to an estimated \$5.3 billion loss in annual revenue due to childcare issues.

Recommendation:

- Increase the SR eligibility threshold from 150% of the Federal Poverty Level to better align with increasing minimum wage and cost of living for Florida's working families.