

**6M-4.741 Program Assessment Threshold Requirements for the School Readiness Program.**

(1) Contract Minimum Threshold.

(a) In accordance with Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C. providers must have a program assessment conducted and meet the Contract Minimum Threshold prior to executing a School Readiness Contract. For the 2020-21 and 2021-22 School Readiness contract years, providers must have a program assessment conducted and meet the Contract Minimum Threshold prior to executing a School Readiness Contract. The provider must receive a minimum program assessment composite score of 3.50 (rounding two decimals), or meet the exception as defined in paragraph (2)(i) of Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C., to participate in the School Readiness Program.

(b) For the 2022-23 School Readiness contract year, providers must have a program assessment conducted and meet the Contract Minimum Threshold prior to executing a School Readiness Contract. The provider must receive a minimum program assessment composite score of 4.00 (rounding two decimals) to participate in the School Readiness Program.

(2) Quality Improvement Threshold.

(a) In accordance with Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C. providers that meet the Contract Minimum Threshold score but do not meet the Quality Improvement Threshold shall be placed on a Quality Improvement Plan, in accordance with the School Readiness Contract, for 12 months. For the 2020-21 and 2021-22 School Readiness contract years, providers who have program assessment results that fall below the Quality Improvement Threshold of a 4.00 (rounding to two decimals) composite program assessment score, as defined in Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C., but meet the contract minimum threshold will be placed on a Quality Improvement Plan for 12 months pursuant to Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C.

(b) Beginning with the 2022-23 School Readiness contract year, providers that have been on a Quality Improvement Plan for 12 months and do not meet or exceed the Contract Minimum Threshold of a 4.00 (rounding to two decimals) composite program assessment score at the next annual program assessment will have their School Readiness contract terminated by the coalition unless the provider is considered essential to meet local child care capacity needs pursuant to Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C.

(3) Program Assessment Scores and Annual Program Assessment Exemption.

(a) Providers that receive a composite program assessment score, as defined in Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C., of a 5.00 (rounding to two decimals) shall be considered exempt from the annual program assessment requirement, pursuant to Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C., and shall have a program assessment conducted biennially.

(b) If a provider falls below a composite program assessment score, as defined in Rule 6M-4.740, F.A.C., of a 5.00 (rounding to two decimals) during the biennial program assessment, the provider will no longer be considered exempt and shall have a program assessment conducted annually.