

**STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES**  
**No.: «ContractNumber»**

**SCOPE OF WORK**

The purpose of this contract is to engage the Contractor to support early childhood policy research, development, and implementation projects for the Division of Early Learning (DEL) within the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), and to guide the improvement of systems that support children, families, and teachers within the early childhood care and education system. More specifically, the Contractor is being engaged to (1) activate key stakeholders to develop an expanded informal pathway for career advancement among early care and education teachers, (2) expand access to Practice-Based Coaching by piloting a statewide implementation, and to (3) continue the innovative use of state administrative data to inform policy decisions including analysis focused on factors influencing family and service provider participation in public assistance programs, enhanced descriptions of the early care and education workforce, and the impact on of public assistance program participation on children and families. The overall scope of work is composed of three specific projects as described below.

1. Revise and extend Florida's informal pathway for early childhood teacher professional development and career advancement. Florida Statute 1002.995 requires the Division of Early Learning (DEL) to identify informal early learning career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications that allow early childhood teachers to access specialized professional development that strengthens knowledge and teaching practices, aligns to established professional standards and core competencies, provides a progression of attainable, competency-based stackable credentials and certifications, and improves outcomes for children to increase kindergarten readiness and early grade success.

2. Initial Implementation of Expanded Statewide Access to Practice-Based Coaching (PBC) through DEL Staff (Staff). PBC is an evidence-based model for early childhood teacher professional development that has demonstrated effectiveness improving the teaching performance and proficiency in the use of teaching practices that contribute to quality learning experiences for children. While the use of PBC with fidelity or as intended leads to teachers' use of effective practices, access to this model of support is not widely available throughout the state of Florida. To facilitate expanded access, the Contractor will provide technical assistance services for the Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning (DEL) to implement the evidence-informed University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies (UF AZCEECS) model of PBC (Snyder et al. 2022). These services will (a) enhance existing coaching models by focusing on more targeted coaching skills, and (b) support teachers' consistent use of effective classroom practices with children and their families.

3. Sunshine State Early Childhood Information Portal (Sunshine Portal). The Sunshine Portal provides Florida's early childhood system stakeholders access to the Florida needs assessment data. Furthermore, this allows users to create customized maps and data visualizations describing access and outcomes of early-childhood-system supports by selecting from a variety of data points over geographic levels, including zip code, county, early learning coalition, and statewide.