



# MEDIA ALERT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF PASCO AND HERNANDO COUNTIES, INC. JOINS CHILD CARE EXECUTIVE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM TO REIMBURSE PASCO AND HERNANDO BUSINESSES THAT OFFER FREE CHILD CARE TO EMPLOYEES**

*The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is participating in the state's Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) program that will reimburse local businesses on a dollar-for-dollar basis to provide quality child care services to participating families.*

From a business standpoint, what are the perks of providing working parents with dependable, high-quality child care? Employees are more likely to work harder, stay at their jobs longer, miss fewer days of work, and pay more attention to their projects because they are comfortable knowing their children are in a quality learning environment close by.

The Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) program, in conjunction with Florida's Office of Early Learning and the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc., is offering financial assistance to help local employers meet the needs of working parents. The Coalition will help administer the program, manage the contributions and determine eligibility for families who want to participate. Up to 50% of the child care expenses paid for each current employee may be reimbursed.

To express interest in the CCEP program, local businesses are asked to download the application which can be found on the Coalition's website at [www.phelc.org](http://www.phelc.org). Once the application is completed, the Coalition asks that you return the application to Early Learning Coalition Finance Director, Rachel Hardy at [r.hardy@phelc.org](mailto:r.hardy@phelc.org).

If you have any questions on the Child Care Executive Partnership program, please contact Coalition Finance Director, Rachel Hardy at [r.hardy@phelc.org](mailto:r.hardy@phelc.org) or by calling 727-233-8291.

For more information about the CCEP Program, visit Florida's Office of Early Learning's website at [www.floridaearlylearning.com/coalitions/ccep\\_program.aspx](http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/coalitions/ccep_program.aspx).

For more information about the Coalition and its services, visit [www.phelc.org](http://www.phelc.org).

### **About the Coalition**

*The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is one of 30 Early Learning Coalitions in Florida. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program is for all children who are four-years old on or before September 1st. School Readiness provides subsidized child care for low-to-moderate income working families. The nonprofit serves over 13,000 children between infancy and twelve-years old, working with more than 400 providers in the counties.*

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