



**Early
Learning
Coalition**
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

**2675 Winkler Avenue, Suite 300
Ft. Myers, Florida 33901**

PHONE (239) 935-6100

FAX (239) 935-6181

WEB ELCOFSWFL.ORG

RFQ Questions and Responses – Thrive Initiative Services

Posted: March 3, 2026

1. Can you provide projected service volumes or historical referral patterns for each service category?

The Coalition does not guarantee a minimum volume of services under this solicitation. Service demand will depend on provider participation, identified child and family needs, and program priorities related to the Hurricane Ian recovery and resiliency initiatives.

Because this is a new service structure being implemented under Thrive Initiative under the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida, Inc.'s Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief Grant, historical referral patterns may not fully reflect anticipated demand. The Coalition anticipates that service needs may vary across service categories and geographic areas and may evolve over the grant period.

2. How will referrals be distributed between multiple awarded vendors?

If multiple vendors are awarded contracts, referrals may be distributed based on several factors, including but not limited to:

- Geographic coverage
- Contractor capacity and availability
- Specialized expertise
- Timeliness of response
- Provider or family preference, where applicable
- Programmatic needs identified by the Coalition and overall program implementation considerations

The Coalition reserves the right to distribute referrals in a manner that best supports program goals and service accessibility.

3. What is the turnaround expectation between referral and service initiation?

The Coalition expects contractors to initiate contacts and begin coordinating services as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a referral.

Specific turnaround expectations will be established through coordination with Coalition staff and may vary based on service type, scheduling availability, and family or provider readiness.



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4. For mental health services, are supervised interns or provisionally licensed clinicians (under appropriate supervision per Florida law) acceptable?

All services must be provided in compliance with applicable Florida licensing laws and professional supervision requirements.

Respondents may propose staffing models that include supervised clinicians or provisionally licensed practitioners where permitted by Florida law, provided that services are appropriately supervised and delivered under the direction of a fully licensed professional as required by applicable licensing regulations.

The Coalition reserves the right to review and approve proposed staffing structures as part of the evaluation process.

5. Will the Coalition provide rate sheets or allow proposers to submit their own rate structure?

Respondents may submit their proposed rate structure as part of their proposal. The Coalition will evaluate proposed rates in relation to the proposed service model, qualifications, and overall program value.

Final rates and payment structures will be established through contract negotiation and must align with available grant funding and applicable grant requirements.

6. Will services be assigned through task orders, and are there maximum caseload expectations or limits per provider?

Services may be assigned through referrals, task orders, or other coordination mechanisms established by the Coalition.

The Coalition has not established maximum caseload limits under this solicitation. Contractors will be expected to communicate their service capacity and availability and accept referrals consistent with their staffing and operational capacity.

7. What reporting platform or data system will contractors be required to use?

Specific reporting processes, templates, and submission requirements will be provided by the Coalition following contract award. Contractors should anticipate providing service logs, encounter summaries, and periodic summary reports as described in the Scope of Work.

The Coalition may provide reporting templates or request information through standard documentation formats to support monitoring, evaluation, and grant compliance. Respondents



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are encouraged to include information in their proposals regarding any existing reporting platforms, data systems, or documentation processes currently used to track service delivery, service utilization, and child or program outcomes.

Contractors should also anticipate periodic programmatic and fiscal monitoring activities consistent with applicable grant requirements, including Federal Uniform Grants Guidance (2 CFR Part 200), Programmatic needs identified by the Coalition and Division of Early Learning program guidance. Contractors will be expected to maintain documentation sufficient to support monitoring, evaluation, and audit requirements associated with the Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief Grant.

8. Does the Coalition anticipate extending the contract beyond the disaster grant period if funding continues?

The current solicitation is funded through the Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief Grant and contracts will align with the grant performance period and funding availability.

If additional funding sources become available in the future, the Coalition may evaluate opportunities to extend or expand services consistent with applicable procurement and funding requirements.

9. Can you provide more information on the following for the grant: start date, end date, total length, and expiration or renewal options?

The Hurricane Impact Disaster Grant currently has a performance period of:

- July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028

Contracts issued under this solicitation will align with the grant period and available funding.

Continuation of services beyond the grant period is not guaranteed and would depend on future funding availability and applicable procurement requirements.