

## ***Transition to the Florida State Core Competencies for ECE Practitioners***

The State of Florida's Professional Development Initiative recently announced the adoption of **Florida's Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Practitioners**. As a result, Palm Beach County has agreed to replace its version of the Core Competencies with that of the State's.

**Core competencies** are the range of knowledge and observable skills that adults working with young children need to know, understand, and do to support children's development and school readiness. They lay the foundation for the professional development and career pathways for early care and education professionals. Trainers can use the competencies to help them focus their trainings and create their **Quality Assurance Goal Sheets** and **PACES**.

The **Florida Core Competencies** are aligned closely with Palm Beach County's competencies. They are organized in the same manner under **Core Knowledge Areas** and **Key Elements**. Within each **Key Element**, the **Core Competencies** are organized by tier (in Palm Beach County, these are levels). The tiers are based on practitioners' clock hours of specialized training and education in the field. The State is in the process of designing the document, but, until then, a **working copy** may be downloaded from the [Office of Early Learning webpage](#). Trainers are encouraged to review this document to become familiar with the new language used in these **Core Competencies**.

The Institute of Excellence will begin to transition to the State's **Core Competencies** and will expect that all trainers/trainings use the language of the State's competencies by **April 1, 2010**. The Registry is in the process of updating forms that will be affected by this change. The Institute of Excellence will continue to advise trainers through this transition phase or trainers may contact Katie Johnson for assistance at [johnsokm@palmbeachstate.edu](mailto:johnsokm@palmbeachstate.edu) or 561-868-3694.