Goal: To provide information about education and after-school care assistance to grandfamilies who are residents of Florida.

Early Childhood Education—School Readiness Program
If you are working, volunteering, or otherwise unable to care for younger grandchildren throughout the day, you may find it difficult to find quality child care. Florida’s School Readiness program was created to address this need. Each community in the state is required to have an Early Learning Coalition that provides a placement office to assist parents and grandparents in finding quality child care and early education. The early learning office can also provide information about how to obtain financial assistance if you are unable to pay for child care on your own. Because eligibility and options may vary, you must call your local office for details. Visit the Early Learning Coalition website at http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/parents/find_quality_child_care/locate_a_child_care_resource_referral_program/countys_early_learning_coalition.aspx for a directory of local offices; or call the Agency for Workforce Innovation’s Office of Early Learning Child Care Resource Referral Network at 1-866-357-3239 for assistance.

Head Start and Early Head Start are early education programs for children up to age five. They are child-focused programs aimed at increasing the school readiness of young children in low-income families. For more information, call your local Head Start Center or visit the Florida Head Start website at http://www.floridaheadstart.org/.

Public School
You may have to have custody of your grandchildren to enroll them in public school. Each school district has its own requirements, so it is best to call the school before you attempt to enroll your grandchild.
Registering your grandchild in public school is an important task. You need to have several documents with you to register your grandchild for public school. You need to show proof of the following:

- your residence;
- your grandchild’s date of birth;
- your grandchild’s record of immunizations and physical exams;
- custody documentation (or other proof of guardianship as required by the school district); and
- any previous school records.

If your grandchild has attended public school before, these documents may be on file at his or her previous school.

**After-School Care for School-Age Children**

If you continue to work while raising your grandchild, you may be faced with the possibility of needing after-school care. The following places may offer after-school care in your area:

- schools;
- boys and girls clubs;
- YMCA;
- place of worship;
- parks and recreation department;
- private centers; and
- nonprofit organizations.