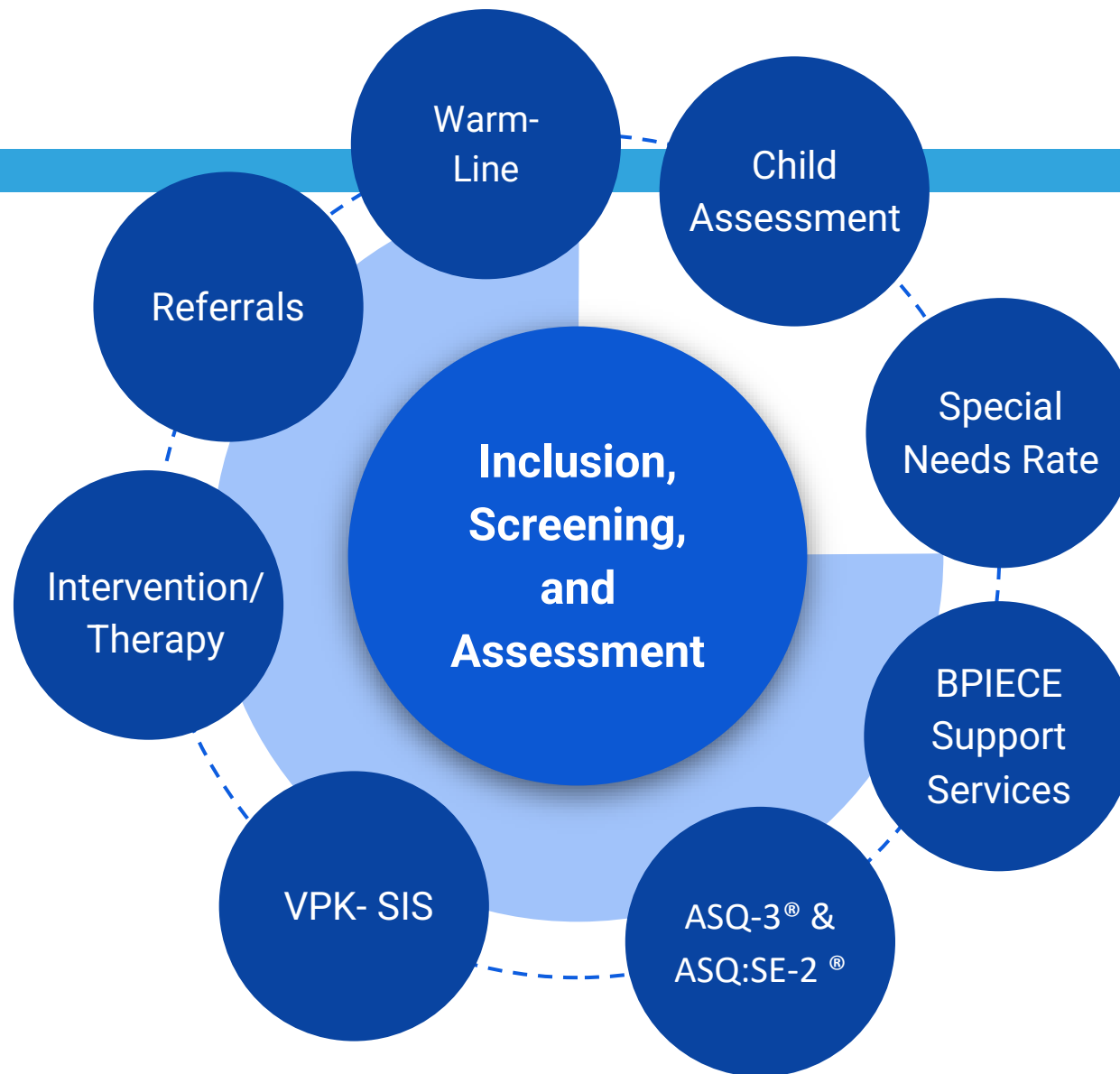


# BEST PRACTICES IN INCLUSIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (BPIECE) SUPPORT SERVICES



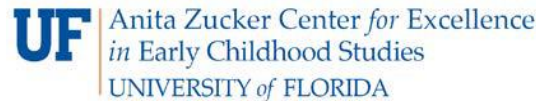
The Future Call – March 2024

Inclusion,  
Screening, and  
Child Assessment



# BPIECE Self Assessment Tool

**B**est  
**P**ractices in  
**I**nclusive  
**E**arly  
**C**hildhood  
**E**ducation



# What is the BPIECE Self-Assessment Tool?

- **Adapted** from school-age BPIE (Best Practices in Inclusive Education)
- **Self-Assessment** Tool for Practitioners and Directors
- **Bridge** between research and inclusion practices in early care and education settings
- Builds on foundation of **high quality early childhood education**
- On going **self reflection**
- Self identify areas of **strength**
- Self identify areas of **priority** regarding inclusion

# What does the BPIECE Self-Assessment Tool assess?

## BPIECE Practitioner

- Environment
- Family
- Collaboration
- Interaction
- Instruction
- Screening & Assessment
- Transition

## BPIECE Director

- Administration
- Environment
- Family
- Collaboration & Interaction
- Professional Development
- Screening & Assessment
- Transition

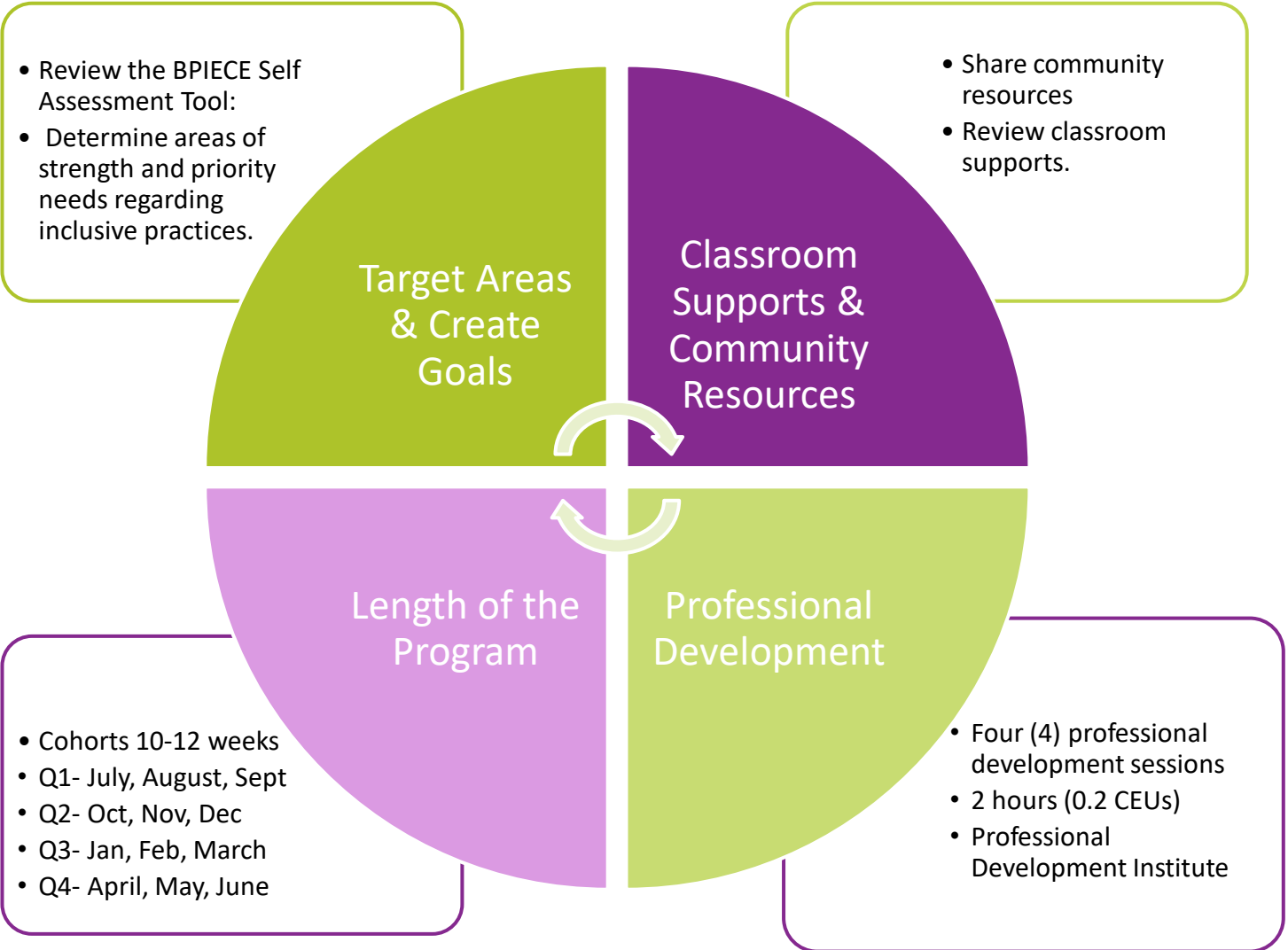
# Who should complete the BPIECE Self-Assessment Tool?

*Directors and practitioners (classroom teachers) use the tool to self-assess but, WE are providing support.*



# What is the BPIECE Support Services Program?

Assist early educators' implementation of inclusive practices




# Who is eligible for the BPIECE Support Services Program?



Early learning partners with a certified School Readiness contract with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe



Early learning partners with active School Readiness enrollments



Early learning partners that serve children with disabilities/special needs between the ages of birth through kindergarten eligibility (60 months)



# The BPIECE Support Services Program

## How Does it Work?

Educators and Coalition Staff partner to create goals in the following areas:

Director's Tool Target Areas	Teacher's Tool Target Areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment	<input type="checkbox"/> Family
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration
<input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration & Interaction	<input type="checkbox"/> Interaction
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Instruction
<input type="checkbox"/> Screening & Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Screening & Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Transition	<input type="checkbox"/> Transition



Special Needs Rate

1. BPIECE Certificate of Completion
2. Apply for the Special Needs Rate differential
  - a) Infant Rate plus an additional percentage (10%, 15%, 20%)
  - b) Determined by the child's support needs.

# Rule 6M-4.500: Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements.

## Specific Rule Text

(7) Reimbursement for Children with Special Needs.

(a) A childcare provider may be reimbursed by the coalition at a higher rate if caring for any school readiness child with special needs requiring additional care beyond services required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A special needs rate may be negotiated up to twenty (20) percent above the established coalition reimbursement rate for infant care.

## View the rule in its entirety!

- [6M-4.500 : Child Attendance and Provider Reimbursements - Florida Administrative Rules, Law, Code, Register - FAC, FAR, eRulemaking \(flrules.org\)](#)

# Special Needs Rate Application Process

## Application

- Early learning partners submit an application for each eligible child

## Observation

- Inclusion Specialists conduct an observation of the child in the classroom to approve each Special Needs Rate Application

## Strategies

- Inclusion Specialists recommend inclusive practices and/or reasonable accommodations for the preschool setting

## Follow up

- Inclusion Specialists conduct follow-ups on the child's progress and provide additional support, as needed

# Child Eligibility Criteria for the Special Needs Rate

- Enrollment is open to eligible children between the ages of birth through Kindergarten eligibility
- Continued eligibility is available to eligible children through age 13.

## Age



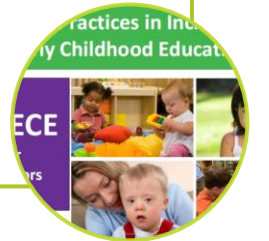
- Eligible children receive School Readiness

## Funding



- Eligible children must have an Identified special need
  - ✓ IEP/IFSP
  - ✓ Evaluation/ RX
  - ✓ Receiving Therapy
  - ✓ Documented Medical Needs

## Needs



# Our Reach : 2019-2024

258

- Certified BPIECE Programs and over 516 Certified Early Educators

93

- Programs/Providers have received the Special Needs Rate
- *\*Special Needs Rate Differential established 2021*

352

- Children are eligible for the Special Needs Rate
- *\*Special Needs Rate Differential established 2021*

# Interested in BPIECE Support Services? Contact the Warm-Line!

**Do you have  
concerns about  
your child?**



**Contact the Warm-Line if you have questions about the way a child is:**

- Talking or communicating
- Behaving or making friends
- Reaching developmental milestones
- Eating and growing

**The Warm-Line assists child care providers and families with:**

- Sharing screening results
- Including children with Special Needs
- Curriculum implementation and accommodations for all learners
- Connecting families to additional evaluations or early intervention/therapy
- Classroom behavior management
- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Specialized Instructional Services (VPK-SIS)

## Contact the Warm-Line



**786-433-3095 (Miami-Dade)**

**786-417-4021 (Monroe)**



**warmline@elcmdm.org**

**Early Education. Lifelong Success.**  
[www.elcmdm.org](http://www.elcmdm.org)

# THANK YOU!

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