

This document can be copied and distributed by schools and districts in newsletters, websites, etc. to notify parents of the existence and purpose of PIRCs in Florida (Florida's Parental Information and Resource Centers) as required by federal law [NCLB, Title I, Part (a) Section 1118 (g)]. This PIRC Parent Notification is also available for free downloading in English and Spanish, and soon in Haitian Creole, at www.floridapirc.usf.edu.



PIRC: Parental Information & Resource Center, NCLB Parental Notification

What is the Florida PIRC at USF?

The Florida Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC) at the University of South Florida (USF) is a center funded by the US Department of Education.

The PIRC's goal is improved parental involvement in education so Florida's students:

- 1) are better prepared to enter school, and
- 2) increase in their academic achievement.

What can the Florida PIRC at USF do for you and your child's school?

1. Provide training, information, and services that strengthen the relationship between parents, schools, and early childhood programs.
For example:
 - ♦ Training workshops for parents and educators
 - ♦ Tip sheets for parents and educators
 - ♦ Website with resources (www.floridapirc.usf.edu)
 - ♦ Electronic communication of parent involvement news
 - ♦ Regional parent involvement learning communities to exchange ideas
 - ♦ Outreach to underrepresented families to support parent involvement in education
 - ♦ Connections to other organizations that support parent involvement.
2. Coordinate, collaborate, and network to increase parent involvement for academic achievement by increasing understanding and best use of state and federal systems and safeguards, including:
 - ♦ FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test)
 - ♦ School and state report cards
 - ♦ Public school choice
 - ♦ Free tutoring for those who qualify (Supplemental Educational Services, SES)
 - ♦ Rights and opportunities for your child under the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act*
 - ♦ School-parent compacts.
3. Develop and support research-based parent involvement practices that improve student achievement.
For example:
 - ♦ Trainings and workshops in subject areas (math, science, and reading)
 - ♦ Strategies for parents to help children with schoolwork
 - ♦ Policies to help parents and educators communicate effectively
 - ♦ Conferences to turn what we **know** are best practices into what we actually **do**
 - ♦ Early childhood home visiting programs (*Parents as Teachers, PAT*).

For more information, please contact the Florida Parental Information & Resource Center (PIRC) at the University of South Florida:
Office: (813) 974-5458
Toll Free: (866) 775-8661
Fax: (813) 396-9925

Visit the Florida PIRC at USF website for many free, downloadable resources for parents & educators:
www.floridapirc.usf.edu

Want to know more about the Florida PIRC at USF? Please visit www.floridapirc.usf.edu or call (866) 775-8661.

- ♦ To learn about the National PIRC Program, visit www.nationalpirc.org/pircs.
- ♦ To learn about the Florida PIRC of FND, visit www.floridapirc.org.

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Rev. 04-09-10