

AGENCY NAME:	SC First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H.63(Department of Education)	SECTION:	First Steps

**Fiscal Year 2018–2019
Accountability Report**

SUBMISSION FORM

AGENCY MISSION	Collaborating with other entities, First Steps helps South Carolina families and caregivers prepare their children for school success by maximizing public and private community resources to deliver, enhance, and expand high-quality early childhood services.
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AGENCY VISION	Every South Carolina child will be prepared for success in school.
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Does the agency have any major or minor recommendations (internal or external) that would allow the agency to operate more effectively and efficiently?

	Yes	No
RESTRUCTURING RECOMMENDATIONS:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 2-1-230, which requires submission of certain reports to the Legislative Services Agency for publication online and the State Library? See also S.C. Code Ann. § 60-2-30.

	Yes	No
REPORT SUBMISSION COMPLIANCE:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Is the agency in compliance with various requirements to transfer its records, including electronic ones, to the Department of Archives and History? See the Public Records Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-1-10 through 30-1-180) and the South Carolina Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 26-6-10 through 26-10-210).

RECORDS MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE:	Yes	No
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>


Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-120(J), which requires an agency to conduct a formal review of its regulations every five years?

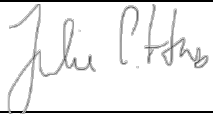
REGULATION REVIEW:	Yes	No
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's accountability report.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Georgia Mjartan	803-734-0391	gmjartan@scfirststeps.org
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Mark Barnes	803-734-8079	mbarnes@scfirststeps.org

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2018–2019 Accountability Report, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

AGENCY DIRECTOR (SIGN AND DATE):		9/12/2019
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	Georgia Mjartan	

BOARD/CMSN CHAIR (SIGN AND DATE):		9/12/2019
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	Julie Hussey	

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AGENCY’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

SC First Steps: 2019 in Review

FY19 was a year of growth and progress for the state’s comprehensive school readiness initiative, as SC First Steps oversaw the continued success of its 46 local partnerships, continued expanding the state’s private four-year-old kindergarten program, and gave new life and energy to the state’s Early Childhood Advisory Council.

During FY19, First Steps:

- Delivered more than **21,000 Parents as Teachers** home visits to the families of at-risk children. Client children **averaged 2.64 significant school readiness risk factors** (including poverty, low birth weight, lack of maternal education, abuse/neglect and foster care placements, and more), while their parents demonstrated **growth in both parenting skill and interactive literacy behaviors**.
- Enrolled and served **2,895 children in 228 private First Steps 4K classrooms** in 64 school districts.
- Initiated a **major marketing effort** to recruit private First Steps 4K students which helped provide a **9.4% increase** in the number of children served.
- Delivered nearly **5,000 hours of on-site technical assistance** to South Carolina child care providers participating in quality-enhancement programming.
- Provided intensive, **high-quality professional development** to nearly 615 private 4K teachers and administrators.
- Offered – for the first time – **extended-day, extended-year, and summer school service options** designed to meet the needs of children and families enrolled in the First Steps 4K program.
- Recreated the **Early Childhood Advisory Council**, which is the organization charged with coordinating services and collaborating efforts with all the major early childhood serving agencies in the state.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies:

Should First Steps fail to meet its goals and objectives, South Carolina’s young children will be less prepared for success in school and life. But it doesn’t end there. The evidence-based strategies delivered by the initiative are documented by research to help *reduce* the occurrence of costly negative outcomes, including child abuse and neglect, poor health, special education placements, academic remediation, unemployment, incarceration and more. In this sense, the work of SC First Steps is not only advancing the long-term success and prosperity of its clients, but reducing substantial taxpayer burdens associated with a host of undesirable outcomes.

In order to promote success and mitigate against these negative outcomes, First Steps requires the ongoing support of its public and private partners, Governor McMaster, and the SC General Assembly.

To mitigate against this failure and better ensure the success of the First Steps initiative, policy makers might:

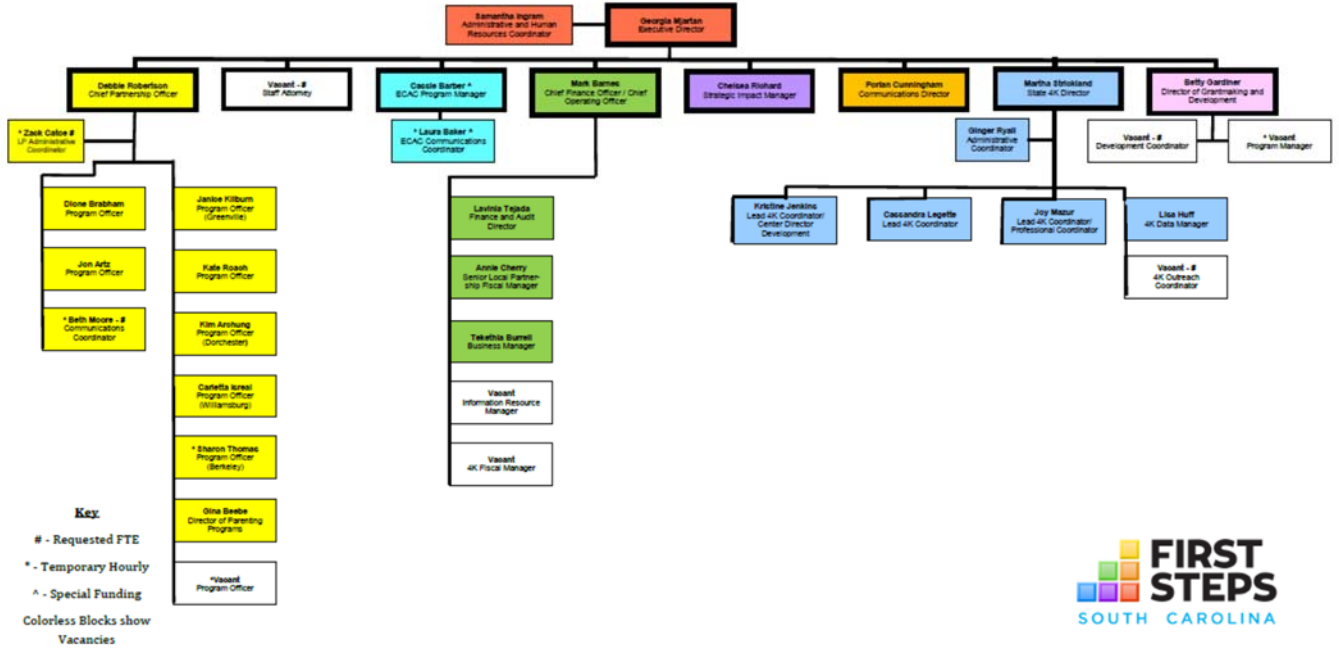
- 1) Consider expanding the resources made available to local First Steps Partnerships – allowing for the expansion of evidence-based early childhood interventions proven to impact the long-term success and prosperity of their participants.
- 2) Make the statutory and funding changes necessary to expand the Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (First Steps 4K) – currently limited to 64 school districts – available to all of the Palmetto State’s at-risk four-year-old children, while maintaining the mixed delivery system that provides choice to parents.

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3) Support First Steps’ request for additional resources needed to optimally capture and report data on the success of the initiative and its participants.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART:

An organizational chart depicting the agency’s first three levels of reporting is included below.



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Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement Template

Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective	Type	Item #			Description	2018-19			Time Applicable	Data Source and Availability	Calculation Method	Meaningful Use of Measure
		Goal	Strategy	Measure		Base	Target	Actual				
Education, Training, and Human Development	G	1			Further expand access to high-quality early care, education, and early literacy services, particularly in the Abbeville plaintiff districts.							
	S	1.1			Promote the implementation of evidence-based early care and education programming by local partnership boards.							
	M	1.1.1			Number of Parents as Teachers home visits delivered to high risk families.	22,267		21,075	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Number of Parents as Teachers home visits delivered to high risk families.	Measure of service delivery to high-risk families.
	M	1.1.2			Duration of Parents as Teachers home visits.	24,887		23,032	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	# of Hours of Parents as Teachers home visits.	Measure of service intensity.
	M	1.1.3			Average Parents as Teachers visits per client, per month.	2.25	2 or more required	2.14	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Average Parents as Teachers visits per client, per month.	Measure of service intensity, success in meeting First Steps accountability standards.
	M	1.1.4			Average Number of Parents as Teachers Client Risk Factors	3.89	2 or more required for at least 60% of clients	2.64	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Average number of client risk factors	Measure of First Steps success in reaching high-risk clients.
	M	1.1.5			Percentage of Parents as Teachers clients with 2 or more school readiness risk factors.	85.9	60% or greater required	89.2	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Percentage of Parents as Teachers clients with 2 or more school readiness risk factors.	Measure of First Steps success in reaching high-risk clients.
	M	1.1.6			Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) gain among adult PAT clients	14.6% gain (.44 on a 3 point scale)	10% or greater	13% gain (.40 on a 3 point scale)	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) Gains among adult PAT clients	Measure of improvement in parental literacy behaviors.
	M	1.1.7			Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) gain among child PAT clients	17.33% gain (.45 on a 3 point scale)	10% or greater	15.3% gain (.46 on a 3 point scale)	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) Gains among child PAT clients	Measure of improvement in child literacy behaviors.
	M	1.1.8			Number of child care providers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	128	Variable based on funding by local partnerships	121	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Number of child care providers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	Measure of success in providing quality enhancement services to SC child care providers.
	M	1.1.9			Hours of on-site technical assistance provided to child care centers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	4,587.50	Variable based on funding by local partnerships	5,007	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Hours of on-site technical assistance provided to child care centers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	Measure of service intensity.

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Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective	Type	Item #			Description	2018-19			Time Applicable	Data Source and Availability	Calculation Method	Meaningful Use of Measure
		Goal	Strategy	Measure		Base	Target	Actual				
	M		1.1.10		Difference in average pre-assessment with Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale compared to average post-assessment among child care centers participating in intensive quality enhancement.	12.5% gain (.88 on a 7 point scale. *FY18 data reflects single year gain.	10% or greater	10% gain (.71 on a 7 point scale. *FY19 data reflects single year gain.)	July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019	FSDC Data System	Difference in average pre-assessment with Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale compared to average post-assessment among child care centers participating in intensive quality enhancement.	Measure of First Steps' success in improving child care quality.
	S		1.2		Collaborate with agency partners to support and cross-promote exis							
	S		1.3		Increase participation in the First Steps 4K program among both pro							
	M		1.3.1		Expand the number of private preschool providers participating in the Firs	187	202 (8% increase)	205	2018-2019 school year	ChildPlus	Numer of participating providers and associated classrooms	Measure of success in expanding provider network
	M		1.3.2		Expand student enrollment within the First Steps 4K program	2,646	2,857 (8% increase)	2,895	Total Students Served During 2018-2019 School Year	ChildPlus	Numer of students enrolled	Measure of success in expanding student enrollment.
	S		1.4		Pursue opportunities designed to expand access to high-quality earh							
Education, Training, and Human Development	G	2			Enhance/expand comprehensive services to children 0-5 and the familie							
	S		2.1		Increase grant allocations to local partnerships designed to expand s							
Education, Training, and Human Development	G	3			Increase understanding of school readiness domains and assessment an							
	S		3.1		Increase understanding of school readiness domains, assessment, ar							
Government and Citizens	G	4			Build state and local capacity by strengthening interagency collaborati							
	S		4.1		Establish state-local teams, designed to ensure clear communication							
	S		4.2		Establish an Executive Director Council, mirroring the state board str							
	S		4.3		First Steps will create - in collaboration with agency partners - enhar							
	S		4.4		Identify collective impact goals and best practices related to interagi							
	S		4.5		Develop – or actively participate in an existing - interagency strategi							
Government and Citizens	G	5			Enhance systems of support for local partnerships, BabyNet providers, E							
	S		5.1		Add technical assistance resources in areas of identified partnership							
	S		5.2		Develop, distribute and provide on-site support for tools to build cap							
	S		5.3		Support increased professional development on issues of equity and							
	S		5.4		Support increased technical assistance to 4K providers.							
	M		5.4.1		4K classroom staff attending 4-day First Steps 4K Teacher Academy for hig	385	423 (10% increase)	385	2019 Academy	SC First Steps	Attendance count	Number of teachers provided with intensive, multi-day professional development specific to 4K.
	M		5.4.2		4K administrators attending 2-day First Steps 4K Leadership Academy for	229	252 (10% increase)	229	2019 Academy	SC First Steps	Attendance count	Number of administrators provided with intensive, multi-day professional development specific to 4K.
Education, Training, and Human Development	G	6			Examine and strengthen early childhood transitions for children among :							
	S		6.1		Collaborate with key interagency partners in an effort to strengthen							
Government and Citizens	G	7			Develop a system of shared, interagency accountability (state and local,							
	S		7.1		Complete an inventory of statewide children's services, to include fu							
	S		7.2		Task the interagency collaboration committee with studying the fea:							

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Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective	Type	Item #			Description	2019-20			Time Applicable	Data Source and Availability	Calculation Method	Meaningful Use of Measure
		Goal	Strategy	Measure		Base	Target	Actual				
Education, Training, and Human Development	G	1			Further expand access to high-quality early care, education, and early literacy services, particularly in the Abbeville plaintiff districts.							
	S	1.1			Promote the implementation of evidence-based early care and education programming by local partnership boards.							
	M		1.1.1	Number of Parents as Teachers home visits delivered to high risk families.	21,075	Variable based on funding by local partnerships		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Number of Parents as Teachers home visits delivered to high risk families.	Measure of service delivery to high-risk families.	
	M		1.1.2	Duration of Parents as Teachers home visits.	23,032	Variable based on funding by local partnerships		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	# of Hours of Parents as Teachers home visits.	Measure of service intensity.	
	M		1.1.3	Average Parents as Teachers visits per client, per month.	2.14	2 or more required		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Average Parents as Teachers visits per client, per month.	Measure of service intensity, success in meeting First Steps accountability standards.	
	M		1.1.4	Average Number of PAT Client Risk Factors	2.64	2 or more required for at least 60% of clients		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Average number of client risk factors	Measure of First Steps success in reaching high-risk clients.	
	M		1.1.5	Percentage of Parents as Teachers clients with 2 or more school readiness risk factors.	89.2	60% or greater required		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Percentage of Parents as Teachers clients with 2 or more school readiness risk factors.	Measure of First Steps success in reaching high-risk clients.	
	M		1.1.6	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) gain among adult PAT clients	13% gain (.40 on a 3 point scale)	10% or greater		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) Gains among adult PAT clients	Measure of improvement in parental literacy behaviors.	
	M		1.1.7	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) gain among child PAT clients	15.3% gain (.46 on a 3 point scale)	10% or greater		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Average Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI) Gains among child PAT clients	Measure of improvement in child literacy behaviors.	
	M		1.1.8	Number of child care providers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	121	Variable based on funding by local partnerships		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Number of child care providers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	Measure of success in providing quality enhancement services to SC child care providers.	
	M		1.1.9	Hours of on-site technical assistance provided to child care centers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	5,007	Variable based on funding by local partnerships		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Hours of on-site technical assistance provided to child care centers participating in intensive facility quality enhancement efforts (via local partnerships).	Measure of service intensity.	

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Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement Template

Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective	Type	Item #			Description	2019-20			Time Applicable	Data Source and Availability	Calculation Method	Meaningful Use of Measure
		Goal	Strategy	Measure		Base	Target	Actual				
	M			1.1.10	Difference in average pre-assessment with Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale compared to average post-assessment among child care centers participating in intensive quality enhancement.	10% gain (.71 on a 7 point scale. *FY19 data reflects single year gain.)	10% or greater		July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020	FSDC Data System	Difference in average pre-assessment with Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale compared to average post-assessment among child care centers participating in intensive quality enhancement.	Measure of First Steps' success in improving child care quality.
	S			1.2	Collaborate with agency partners to support and cross-promote ex							
	S			1.3	Increase participation in the First Steps 4K program among both pr							
	M			1.3.1	Expand the number of private preschool providers participating in the Fi	205	215 (5% increase)		2019-2020 school year	ChildPlus	Numer of participating providers and associated classrooms	Measure of success in expanding provider network
	M			1.3.2	Expand student enrollment within the First Steps 4K program	2,895	2952 (2% increase)		Total Students Served During 2019-2020 School Year	ChildPlus	Numer of students enrolled	Measure of success in expanding student enrollment.
	S			1.4	Pursue opportunities designed to expand access to high-quality ea							
Education, Training, and Human Development	G			2	Enhance/expand comprehensive services to children 0-5 and the famil							
	S			2.1	Increase grant allocations to local partnerships designed to expand							
Education, Training, and Human Development	G			3	Increase understanding of school readiness domains and assessment a							
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Government and Citizens	G			4	Build state and local capacity by strengthening interagency collaborati							
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	S			4.3	First Steps will create - in collaboration with agency partners - enh:							
	S			4.4	Identify collective impact goals and best practices related to intera							
	S			4.5	Develop - or actively participate in an existing - interagency stratej							
Government and Citizens	G			5	Enhance systems of support for local partnerships, BabyNet providers,							
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	S			5.2	Develop, distribute and provide on-site support for tools to build c							
	S			5.3	Support increased professional development on issues of equity ar							
	S			5.4	Support increased technical assistance to 4K providers.							
	M			5.4.1	4K classroom staff attending 4-day First Steps 4K Teacher Academy for h	385	395 (2.6% increase)		2020 Academy	SC First Steps	Attendance count	Number of teachers provided with intensive, multi-day professional development specific to 4K.
	M			5.4.2	4K administrators attending 2-day First Steps 4K Leadership Academy fo	229	235 (2.6% increase)		2020 Academy	SC First Steps	Attendance count	Number of administrators provided with intensive, multi-day professional development specific to 4K.
Education, Training, and Human Development	G			6	Examine and strengthen early childhood transitions for children among							
	S			6.1	Collaborate with key interagency partners in an effort to strengthe							
Government and Citizens	G			7	Develop a system of shared, interagency accountability (state and loca							
	S			7.1	Complete an inventory of statewide children's services, to include							
	S			7.2	Task the interagency collaboration committee with studying the fe							

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Program Template

Program/Title	Purpose	FY 2018-19 Expenditures (Actual)					FY 2019-20 Expenditures (Projected)					Associated Measure(s)
		General	EIA Funds	Private/Medicaid	Federal	TOTAL	General	EIA Funds	Private/Medicaid	Federal	TOTAL	
						\$ -					\$ -	
Early Childhood Services	Local First Steps Partnerships, Partnership Accounting and Finance Support, Audit and Technical Assistance		\$ 16,384,390	\$ 122,847		\$ 16,507,237		\$ 17,176,168	\$ 272,000		\$ 17,448,168	1.1.1-1.1.10,
						\$ -					\$ -	
First Steps 4K	Private four-year-old kindergarten expansion under 59-156-110.	\$ 6,575,537	\$ 11,703,046			\$ 18,278,583	\$ 6,583,377	\$ 15,633,500			\$ 22,216,877	1.3.1, 1.3.2, 5.4.1, 5.4.2
						\$ -					\$ -	
Early Head Start	Comprehensive early childhood services for low-income infants and toddlers enabled via federal grant funds.				\$ 1,004,907	\$ 1,004,907					\$ -	2.2.1-2.2.5
Preschool Development Grant					\$ 410,939	\$ 410,939				\$ 824,336	\$ 824,336	All measures
Policy & Accountability	Administrative, Finance and Audit, Procurement, Information Technology, Human Resources, Board of Trustees		\$ 1,315,972	\$ 10,654		\$ 1,326,626		\$ 2,392,000	\$ 128,000		\$ 2,520,000	All measures
Totals		\$ 6,575,537	\$ 29,403,408	\$ 133,501	\$ 1,415,846	\$ 37,528,292	\$ 6,583,377	\$ 35,201,668	\$ 400,000	\$ 824,336	\$ 43,009,381	
						\$ -					\$ -	

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Legal Standards Template

Item #	Law Number	Jurisdiction	Type of Law	Statutory Requirement and/or Authority Granted	Does this law specify who your agency must or may serve? (Y/N)	Does the law specify a product or service your agency must or may provide?	If yes, what type of service or product?	If other service or product, please specify what service or product.
1	59-156-110	State	Statute	Statute spells out the responsibilities for the State Department of Education and SC First Steps to School Readiness for the Child Early Reading Development and Education Program, or the states 4 year old kindergarten program. The statute restates much of the content in provisos included in the SFY 2015 appropriations act. Statute was updated in 2014 and in 2018.	Yes	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service
2	Provisos 1.58 and 1A.29 (SDE: Full Day 4K)	State	Proviso	Companion provisos (General Fund and EIA) set the funding and geographical parameters of the SC Early Reading and Child Development Program per Act 284 which included Read to Succeed.	Yes	Yes	Distribute funding to another entity	High-quality early childhood development and education service
3	Proviso 1.68 (SDE: First Steps 4K Technology)	State	Proviso	Proviso allows for unspent funds from the previous state fiscal year in the 4K Program to be used for specified information technology needs.	Yes	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service
4	Provisos 1.72 and 1A.61 (SDE: CDEPP Unexpended Funds)	State	Proviso	Companion provisos (General Fund and EIA) permit First Steps to retain and utilize up to \$1M in unexpended 4K funding from the prior fiscal year for the purpose of improving classroom quality. Establishes the option of delivering extended-day, extended-year and summer programs in the event of available carry forward.	No	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service
5	Proviso 1.82 (SDE: Military Child Care Centers)	State	Proviso	Proviso allows SC First Steps to deliver CERDEP 4K program in military child care centers monitored by the US Department of Defense.	Yes	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service
6	Proviso 1.83 (SDE: First Steps 4K Underserved Communities)	State	Proviso	Proviso authorizes First Steps to create a pilot program through which grants of up to \$30,000 may be awarded for the purpose of creating new 4K classroom enrollment capacity in underserved communities.	Yes	Yes	Distribute funding to another entity	
7	Proviso 1A.9	State	Proviso	Proviso directs payment of teacher supply funds to individuals, including teachers serving in private First Steps 4K classrooms.	No	Yes	Distribute funding to another entity	
8	Proviso 1A.53 (SDE-EIA: CDEPP Student Information and Reporting)	State	Proviso	State Department of Education and SC First Steps to School Readiness required to acquire unique No student numbers and report that. SDE and First Steps required to provide information to Education Oversight Committee.	No	Yes	Report our agency must/may provide	
9	Title 12-6-5060	State	Statute	Creates tax check off donation to the First Steps to School Readiness Fund.	No	No		
10	PL 110-134	Federal	Statute	Federal Head Start Act, governing operations of Early Head Start Program	Yes	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service
11	59-152-10 through 59-152-160	State	Statute	The South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness is a comprehensive, results-oriented initiative for improving early childhood development by providing, through local partnerships, public and private funds, and support for high-quality early childhood development and education services for children by providing support for their families' efforts toward enabling their children to reach school ready to succeed. The organization was created as a tax exempt organization under section 501 (c)(3) with Act 99 in 1999. Statute was updated in 2014 and again in 2018 with several changes. Modifications included a long range plan requirement, changes to the membership of the Board of Trustees, and direction in relation to allocation funding for local partnerships and others.	Yes	Yes	Other service or product our agency must/may provide	High-quality early childhood development and education service

Statute creates the First Steps to School Readiness Board of Trustees whose purpose is to oversee the South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness initiative, a broad range of innovative early childhood development and education, family support, health services, and prevention efforts to meet critical needs of South Carolina's children through the awarding of grants to partnerships at the county level as provided for in Section 59-152-90. Statute was created in Act 361 in 2008. Act also creates the SC Advisory Council. This council is formed to fulfill the responsibilities under 42 U.S.C. Section 9837b(b)(1)(D)(i) of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. Act was modified in 2014 and 2018 with a number of modifications. In 2014 the changes include the addition of the Early Childhood Advisory Council responsibilities and additional BabyNet responsibilities. In 2018, additional reporting requirements and a 7 year reauthorization of the agency. BabyNet was moved to DHHS per Executive Order effective June 30, 2017.

Yes

Yes

Other service or product our agency must/may provide

High-quality early childhood development and education service

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Customer Template

Service/Product Provided to Customers	Customer Segments	Demographics.	Divisions or Major Programs	Description
Oversight of the finances and programming of 46 local First Steps partnerships.	General Public	Approximate 336,000 young SC children under the age of five.	Early Childhood Services	SC First Steps serves as a grantor and provides oversight and technical assistance to 46 local non-profit First Steps partnerships charged under state law with meeting local school readiness needs.
Oversight and technical assistance to ensure compliant, high-quality service delivery in 198 private preschool settings.	General Public	Legally operating child care centers serving age-, income- and geographically-eligible children residing in 64 SC school districts.	First Steps 4K	First Steps administers publicly-funded four-year-old kindergarten within a network of 198 (Sept. 2016) private, community- and faith-based preschool providers.
Provision of tuition and transportation payment for age-, income- and geographically-eligible children and their families.	General Public	Eligible children must be four years of age by September 1, reside in a school district specified by the SC General Assembly and qualify for free- or reduced-price school lunches or Medicaid.	First Steps 4K	First Steps provides publicly-funded four-year-old kindergarten within a network of 198 (Sept. 2016) private, community- and faith-based preschool providers to more than 2,400 eligible four-year-old children in 64 SC school districts.

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Agency Code and Section: H620 025

Partner Template

Name of Partner Entity	Type of Partner Entity	Description of Partnership	Associated Goal(s)
Local First Steps Partnerships	Non-Governmental Organization	First Steps' local partnership grantees deliver needed early childhood education services in each of the state's 46 counties.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Private 4K Service Providers	Private Business Organization	Currently 202 private preschool providers partner with SC First Steps to ensure the delivery of high-quality four-year-old kindergarten in 64 SC school districts.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Private Early Head Start Service Providers	Private Business Organization	15 licensed child care providers selected through a competitive application process in 12 SC counties.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN)	State Government	DDSN is a valued partner and service provider within the interagency BabyNet system. Agency Director Mary Poole sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
SC Department of Social Services	State Government	DSS is a valued partner in the areas of child care and child welfare. Acting Agency Director Joan Meacham sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control	State Government	DHEC is a valued partner in the area of maternal-child health. Acting Agency Director David Wilson sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
SC Department of Health and Human Services	State Government	As the state's Medicaid agency, DHHS is a valued partner. Agency Director Joshua Baker sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
The Children's Trust of SC	State Government	As the state's Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting grantee and an active partner in the prevention of child abuse and neglect, The Children's Trust of SC is a valued agency partner. Agency Director Sue Williams sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Head Start Collaboration Office	State Government	As the federal government's liaison between Head Start and local grantees, the Head Start Collaboration Office is a valued partner. SC Collaboration Director Mary Lynne Diggs sits on the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
SC Department of Education	State Government	As a co-administrator of the state's four-old-kindergarten program and the representative of public school districts statewide, the SC Department of education is a valued partner. Dr. David Mathis represents State Superintendent Molly Spearman as a member of the SC First Steps Board of Trustees.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Agency Name: SC FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL READINESS

Fiscal Year 2018-2019
Accountability Report

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Report and External Review Template

Item	Is this a Report, Review, or both?	Report or Review Name	Name of Entity Requesting the Report or Conducting Review	Type of Entity	Reporting Frequency	Current Fiscal Year: Submission Date or Review Timeline (MM/DD/YYYY)	Summary of Information Requested in the Report or Reviewed	Method to Access the Report or Information from the Review
1	External Review and Report	Audited Financial Statement for the year ending June 30, 2018.	State Auditor	State	Annually	FY19 (Issue October 2019)	Audited financial statement.	https://osa.sc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/H6318First-Steps.pdf
2	External Review and Report	Education Oversight Committee Review of 4K	Education Oversight Committee	State	Annually	FY18 (Issued January 2019)	Annual statutory review of the Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP)	https://eoc.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/4K/STATE-FUNDED%20FULL%20DAY%204K%20PROGRAM%20REPORT.pdf
3	External Review and Report	External Evaluation of Parents as Teachers	Compass Research and Evaluation	Outside Organization	Other	Issued December 2017	External evaluation of Parents as Teachers.	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
4	External Review and Report	Education Improvement Act (EIA)	Education Oversight Committee	State	Annually	September 28, 2019	EIA Program Report activities and expenditures	www.eoc.sc.gov
5	Internal Review and Report	First Steps 4K Technology	State Budget Proviso 1.68	State	Annually	January 15, 2019	Updated List of Expenditures for fiscal year.	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
6	Internal Review and Report	CDEPP Unexpended Funds	State Budget Proviso 1.72	State	Annually	April 1, 2019	Expenditures for Quality Improvement and Professional Development	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
7	Internal Review and Report	4K Underserved Communities	State Budget Proviso 1.83	State	Annually	March 15, 2019	Process, expenditures and expanded enrollment for needs grants.	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
8	Internal Review and Report	Annual Report	State Statute 59-152-50	State	Annually	December 1, 2019	Report on the agency's activities, strategic plan, progress on initiatives, financial information, as well as a number of other items for the most recent year.	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
9	Internal Review and Report	Accountability Report	1-1-810 Agency Accountability Report: Proviso Base Budget Analysis	State	Annually	September 15, 2019	Report on the agency's mission, objectives to accomplish the mission, and performance measures to show the degree to which objectives are being met.	http://scstatehouse.gov/reports/reports.php
10	Internal Review and Report	IT Data Collection Plan	Department of Administration - Division of Technology and Operations	State	Annually	August 3, 2019	Summary of the agencies IT Needs and Plans for the next year.	https://www.admin.sc.gov/files/SC%20Dept%20of%20Admin_Statewide%20Strategic%20IT%20Plan_Final%20Version_121708_New%20Fo.pdf