

10.004 Educational Research Centers for Child Development.

(1) Each university board of trustees shall adopt regulations for the operation of an Educational Research Center for Child Development on its campus. Such regulations shall be consistent with the university mission and Board of Governors regulations.

(2) Upon approval of the university president, the student government association of any state university may establish an educational research center for child development. Each such center shall be an early childhood center established to provide education and care for the children of students, both graduate and undergraduate, faculty, and other staff and employees of the university and to provide an opportunity for interested schools or departments of the university to conduct educational research programs and establish internship programs within such centers. Whenever possible, such center shall be located on the campus of the university. There shall be a director of each center, selected by the hiring official and approved by the center's board of directors or advisory board.

(3) Each center shall give highest priority to serving the children of students, followed by the children of staff and faculty.

(4) Each educational research center for child development shall be funded by a portion of the Capital Improvement Trust Fund fee established by the Board of Governors. Each university that establishes a center shall receive a portion of such fees collected from the students enrolled at that university, usable only at that university, equal to 22.5 cents per student per credit hour taken per term, based on the summer term and fall and spring semesters. This allocation shall be used by the university for the establishment and operation of a center as provided in this regulation. Said allocation may be made only after all bond obligations required to be paid from such fees have been met.

(5) Funds appropriated for the Educational and General activities of the State University System shall not be used to staff and operate centers. Operations may be financed either through the capital improvement trust fund fee, activity and service fee allocations, user charges, grants and donations, or any combination of these sources. Funds subject to bond commitment may be used only to the extent that current bond obligations and the terms of the trust indenture are met.

(6) University facilities constructed for the accomplishment of the university's academic mission may be used for university research centers for child development provided that rent is charged, which may be minimal. Such centers will not generate a requirement for fixed capital outlay.

(7) The president shall be responsible for the operation and supervision of the educational research center for child development. The university board of trustees shall promulgate regulations for the operation of the educational research center for

child development, including guidelines for the use and supervision of student interns, the receipt and monitoring of funds in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida and regulations of the university and the Board of Governors, and participation by the student government association. It is recognized that intent of this program is to provide research and training activities which are representative of a comprehensive scope of child development needs throughout the community. To this end, university regulations shall include an admission process that is inclusive of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, as well as mental and physical ability.

(8) Each university board of trustees which establishes an educational research center for child development shall provide for an advisory board if the center is part of the university, or a board of directors, if the center is separately incorporated. The board of directors for each educational research center for child development shall consist of the president of the university or his or her designee, the student government president or his or her designee, the chair or designee from one of the departments participating in the center, and a representative number of parents of children enrolled in the center, elected by parents of children enrolled in the center. The director of the center shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board. The board of directors shall establish local policies and perform local oversight and operational guidance for the center and shall insure that the center is operated according to regulations of the Board of Governors and the university.

(9) Each university board of trustees is authorized to establish fees for child care and services provided by the center. Fees should be set at the level required to support the cost of providing the service. Exceptions should be made for the children of students and may be made for low-income faculty and staff.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const., History--Formerly 6C-2.79, 10-7-74, Amended and Renumbered 12-17-74, Amended 2-18-80, 8-11-85, Formerly 6C-10.04, Amended 12-25-86, 11-29-94, Amended and Renumbered 1-29-09, Amended 8-26-22