



## Weekly Memo

### Events Coming Soon

#### **32nd Annual Statewide Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) Conference**

CARD invites you to the 32nd Annual Center for Autism and Related Disabilities Conference in Orlando on **January 17-19, 2025**. CARD hosts the largest autism-related conference in Florida and is rapidly gaining recognition throughout other states and countries. This conference will feature numerous presenters who will link autism research and autism intervention for 900 through 1,200 professionals and parents of individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. As a bonus this year, the ADOS 2 Certification training is on **January 16, 2025**, and the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed Crisis Management opens at 8 am. CARD will have at least 65 sessions with over 73 professional presenters. **January 17, 2025**, is Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism Day (free day), focusing on education and Hispanics Inspiring Students' Performance and Achievement in an all-day conference in Spanish. Saturday and Sunday will provide multiple keynotes, breakouts and a full Spanish track. For more information, go to the 32nd Annual Statewide CARD Conference web page at [Florida's First Choice for Autism Supports](#) and see the attached documents.

- Filename: 2025 CARD Flyer
- Filename: 2025 ADOS Flyer

### Action Items

#### **Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA) PreID Files Reminder**

The PreID files were uploaded for districts via the secure file center in TIDE and emails were sent out November 15, 2024. A copy of the email blast was also posted to the portal ([Spring PreID File.pdf](#)). The data is only available in TIDE for 13 days. If the file was not downloaded, contact the FAA service center at [faaservicecenter@cambiumassessment.com](mailto:faaservicecenter@cambiumassessment.com) and they will repost the file. The deadline for districts to upload their file in TIDE is **December 20, 2024**. Note that test materials sent to districts are generated from this information. Districts who do not meet the deadline will need to contact the FAA service center for guidance.

## **Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) Annual Census**

The Annual Census, conducted by FIMC-VI, began on December 9, 2024. Directors of exceptional student education should have received an email with instructions for accessing the online system to authorize district personnel to complete the Annual Census. This first step of the process must be completed by **December 31, 2024**. From **January 6 to February 1, 2025**, the Annual Census will be open for authorized district personnel (typically teachers of the visually impaired) to update student records. The [FIMC-VI Info and Updates Part 2 webinar](#) was held on November 12, 2024, to address the steps for completing the Annual Census. If you or your staff were unable to attend, the webinar was recorded and posted on the [Past Events](#) webpage of FIMC-VI's website. The Annual Census allows the State of Florida to calculate the number of legally blind students registered in school districts and receive funding from the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind. The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind authorizes an annual appropriation for the American Printing House for the Blind to produce and distribute educational materials adapted for students who are legally blind and enrolled in formal educational programs below the college level. The production and distribution of accessible instructional materials are done at no cost to the districts where students are registered. For more information about student eligibility, registration requirements or the online process, contact Liz Anderson at [eanderson@fimcvi.org](mailto:eanderson@fimcvi.org) or Kathee Cagle at [kcagle@fimcvi.org](mailto:kcagle@fimcvi.org), or visit the [FIMC-VI website](#).

## **Call for Gifted Education Standards Workgroup Members**

Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has issued a memorandum regarding the [call for gifted education standards workgroup members](#). Individuals seeking to participate in this workgroup must email their interest by **January 10, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

## **Application Posted for the Private School Opportunity to Administer Florida Statewide Assessments in 2025-26**

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding an [application posted for the private school opportunity to administer Florida Statewide Assessments in 2025-26](#). Completed applications must be notarized and submitted by **March 1, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

## **Informational Items**

### **Updates to Rule 6A-1.0018, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), School Safety Requirements and Monitoring**

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the adoption of [updates to Rule 6A-1.0018, F.A.C., School Safety Requirements and Monitoring](#).

### **Gifted Education Week 2024**

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the adoption of [Gifted Education Week 2024](#), which will be December 16-20, 2024.

## New BEESS Team Member

### Instructional Support Services (ISS) Unit

BEESS would like to welcome Carrie Pigott to the ISS as the new state lead for the most significant cognitive disability and the Every Student Succeeds Act 1% Waiver requirements. Ms. Pigott has an extensive background in elementary education and exceptional student education, having taught in both Leon and Wakulla Counties. She enjoys spending quality time with her family, husband and three children, and traveling. She looks forward to working with BEESS in her new capacity.

## Tip of the Week

### Consult Data When Considering a One-to-One Aide

When a parent requests a dedicated aide for his child, decide whether and to what extent the student needs assistance with basic tasks, such as toileting or navigating the school. Too much support could curtail a student's progress. ([Special Ed Connection](#)<sup>®</sup>)

**Alice Schmitges**  
**Bureau Chief**



For more information, contact  
850-245-0475

**NEWS**

**UPDATE**

REGISTRATION IS  
OPEN



**2025**

**CENTER FOR AUTISM &  
RELATED DISABILITIES**

**WWW.CARDCONFERENCE.INFO**

32nd Statewide Annual CARD Conference Orlando, Florida  
January 17-19, 2025



# ADOS-2 COURSE

Autism Diagnostic  
Observation Schedule

## TRAINING DESIGNED FOR:

- ✓ Psychologists
- ✓ Physicians
- ✓ SLPs
- ✓ Behavior Analysts
- ✓ Social Workers
- ✓ Professionals in related fields



TRAINER: Dr. Michael Morrier

**THUR.-FRI.  
JANUARY 16-17, 2025  
ORLANDO, FL**

