

Jose L. Dotres, Chief Human Capital Officer
Office of Human Capital Management

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE RENEWAL OF THE
ADD-ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ENDORSEMENT
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF**

Authorization is requested to submit the renewal of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) add-on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Endorsement to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for approval. The ASD Endorsement Certification Program offers a rigorous professional development program which consists of four college-level courses that are equivalent to inservice courses. The program's curriculum includes coursework and associated experiences as follows:

- Component 1-101-301 Assistive Technology and Alternative/Augmentative Communication
- Component 1-101-302 Behavior Management and Positive Behavioral Support
- Component 1-103-301 Nature, Needs and Assessment
- Component 1-103-302 Implementation of Field-Based Experience (Capstone)

The current proposed renewal requires no modification for the continued successful implementation of the program's requirements.

In view of the fact that M-DCPS recognizes the need to provide their teachers with adequate tools and strategies in meeting the needs of exceptional education students with special needs and taking into consideration the numbers of students diagnosed with ASD increases annually, this program is primarily intended to impact teachers at all academic levels that teach these students.

In accordance with specialization requirements for Autism Spectrum Disorder as stated in 6A-4.01796, FAC, Specialization Requirements for Endorsement in Autism- Academic Class, the current proposed program will be conducted through face-to-face sessions that incorporate frameworks, objectives, and content aligned with State requirements for the add-on program. Copies of the ASD components will be forwarded to Board Members under separate cover and will be placed on file in the offices of Citizen's Information and the Board Recording Secretary.

There is no additional cost to the District associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to submit the renewal of the Add-on Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement Certification to the Florida Department of Education.