

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 NCLB, Title I, Part (a) Section 1118 (g).



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 U.S. Department of Education. The overall goal of the **PIRC** is to help families and schools throughout the state work together effectively to increase parental involvement in education so children are: 1) better prepared to enter school and 2) their academic achievement increases.

What is the mission of the Florida PIRC at USF?

To empower Florida's families to support children's academic success through leading edge parent involvement practices and partnerships.

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

- Provide training, information, and support services that strengthen the relationship between parents, schools, and early childhood programs to improve academic achievement, for example through:*
 - ♦ Training workshops for parents and educators
 - ♦ Tip sheets for parents and educators
 - ♦ Website with resources for parents and educators (www.floridapirc.usf.edu)
 - ♦ Listservs to communicate with parents and educators.
- Coordinate, collaborate, and network to increase family involvement and academic achievement and inform parents of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, such as by providing information and resources on:*
 - ♦ Understanding the FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test) and school and state report cards
 - ♦ Public school choice and what it means for you and your child
 - ♦ Free tutoring available to those who qualify through Supplemental Educational Services (SES)
 - ♦ Regional parent involvement learning communities in your area
 - ♦ Outreach, especially to underrepresented families, to support their effective involvement in their children's education
 - ♦ Partnerships with faith-based organizations that support parental involvement
 - ♦ Effective use of parent-school compacts.
- Use and develop research-based parental involvement practices, activities, programs, and policies that are linked to improving student academic achievement, such as:*
 - ♦ Math And Parent Partners (MAPPS)
 - ♦ Teachers Involving Parents in Schoolwork (TIPS)
 - ♦ Parent Involvement Research-to-Practice Symposium
 - ♦ Parents As Teachers (PAT) home visiting program.

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 web-site for many free, downloadable resources for parents & educators:
www.floridapirc.usf.edu

Want to know more or contact the Florida PIRC at USF? Please visit www.floridapirc.usf.edu or call 1-866-775-8661. To contact directly the Director of the FL PIRC at USF, Dr. Mari T. Fernández, please e-mail or call: mfernand@coedu.usf.edu, (813) 974-2673. For information about the National PIRC Program, please visit www.nationalpirc.org/pircs. For information about the Florida PIRC of FND, please visit www.floridapirc.org.