



News Flash

2008-2009 School Year Readiness Rates

Final rates will be published and available for the general public on Friday, February 26, 2010. Scores may be viewed at <https://vpk.fl DOE.org>, and range between 0 - 200. In early March the State Board of Education will meet to set the minimum rate. Currently that rate is proposed at 138. Any provider with a score less than 138 will be considered a Low Performing Provider (LPP). The Coalition will schedule meetings with all LPPs during the month of March. Providers will be contacted directly once the schedule has been finalized.

VPK Summer 2010 Program

If you are interested in providing a summer program, applications are being accepted from Monday, March 1, 2010 to Friday, May 28, 2010. No application will be accepted after that date as the focus will then move to the fall program.

Please remember:

- No summer program may start before May 1, 2010.
- Teachers must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in early childhood (see the checklist for summer at www.vpkhelp.org).
- The maximum number of children per VPK class is 12.
- Any program of six (6) hours or more needs to have at least 30 minutes of rest for children (this is developmentally appropriate - per ELC policy). However, rest-time is not considered part of the instructional time and will not be reimbursed.
- The reimbursement rate per hour for the summer program is \$7.38.

VPK School Year 2010-2011 Program

This year, there will be three (3) application periods.

Period 1: VPK Fall (programs starting on August 23, 2010, the first day of public school)

- Applications are being accepted beginning Monday, March 15, 2010.
- All providers who wish to receive pre-payment must submit their applications by Friday, June 4, 2010 (**Caution:** if your application is incomplete or has expired documents, you may not be part of the pre-payment group).
- Deadline to submit your application for Period 1 is Friday, July 30, 2010. If you miss this deadline, you must wait for the next period to apply.

Period 2: VPK Winter

- Applications will be accepted from Friday, October 1 to Friday, November 19, 2010.
- Programs starting during this period may have to offer more than three (3) hours per day in order to fulfill the 540 required hours.

Period 3: VPK Spring

- Applications will be accepted from Monday, January 3 to Friday, February 18, 2011.
- VPK programs during this period will offer VPK for five (5) or six (6) hours daily.

NOTE: *For all application periods, change of ownership will be processed when presented.*

A Help Desk Week will be available for your convenience from Monday, March 29 to Friday, April 2, 2010. Any provider needing assistance **must** call Priscilla Ferrer at 305-646-7220, ext. 229 to schedule an appointment. **NOTE:** You **must** bring completed applications with you. VPK staff is not authorized to complete applications for providers.

VPK Banners

Banners are still available for all certified VPK providers. You may pick up a banner at the ELC between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Each provider may have one banner per certified site.

*M-DCPS and Head Start centers are not eligible to receive VPK banners as they must meet their own agencies' requirements first.

New Online Resources

Language and Vocabulary in the VPK Classroom is now available for VPK teachers, assistants, and directors. You can complete the course via DCF's website at <https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/dcf.cct/inf0001.html>. There is a \$10 registration fee.

VPK Teacher Toolkit - The Mathematical Thinking folder is now available. This folder supports the understanding of early math concepts and the development of emergent math skills. You can access the toolkit at www.flvpkonline.org/teachertoolkit. There are various topics in the toolkit to assist teachers with activities in the VPK classroom. Please make use of the information in the kit.

Low Performing Providers (LPP)

Please continue to submit your periodic progress reports. Report 3 was due on November 30, 2009. Report 4 is due Sunday, February 28, 2010. It is AWI's policy to stop payment for any LPP that has an outstanding report (has missed a due date).

Reminders

Please remember to submit any change to your VPK program as soon as possible to avoid penalty for non-compliance. If you have had a change in director, teacher, or teacher assistant, you must submit a new Form 10 or 11 with supporting documents and a Notification Form indicating the change being made.

If you are changing or adding substitutes, submit a Notification Form with supporting documents for the individual.

If you are selling your center, the purchaser should submit a complete VPK application to the Coalition while they wait for the sale to finalize and the new license to be issued.



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