



VPK News Flash

2009-2010 Application Process

Time has run out! If your center is not listed as certified on the VPK HELP website and you have not received a certification letter from us, your program will not be able to start on the first day of school (Monday, August 24, 2009). Remember, you will not receive VPK payments for any child in attendance until the Coalition has given you approval. We ask all providers with pending applications to contact their certification specialist to finalize their package.

New Attendance Policy

The Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) has issued new attendance policies for VPK. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, no more than 20% of a child's absence will be paid. This means for the 540 hours school-year program, only 108 hours will be paid for absences. For programs offering three (3) hours daily, this means only 36 days will be paid for absences for the entire year (approximately two (2) days per month). As providers, it is critical to work with parents to help them understand the importance of children attending school every day and on time.

Reminders!

- All centers should have identified substitutes for their programs. This will help providers avoid being out of compliance when monitored.
- If you are certified for the 2009-2010 year, you must submit your VPK certificates to Miami-Dade County's Child Development Services (CDS) in order to receive payments.
- If you have made changes in your program such as staff, director, or number of children, you must notify the Coalition by submitting the proper document within ten (10) business days. Only two (2) schedule changes are allowed during the program year.
- Only those providers who do not wish to receive pre-payment must provide written notice to the Coalition. Send your letter to Ms. Roseline J. Philippe, VPK Director. If you submitted a letter in a previous year, you do not need to resend it.

Low Performing Providers (LPP)

The completion of periodic progress reports is a requirement set by the Department of Education (DOE) and Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI). Please continue to check the Readiness Rate website (<https://vpk.fldoe.org/>) for deadlines.

Please remember the Coalition is obligated to stop payment for the current program, and cannot approve next year's application (2009-2010) until the provider has met the LPP requirements.

VPK Rules Development Workshop (This is not a VPK training)

The Department of Education Office of Early Learning will be conducting a "Rules Development Workshop" for VPK directors on Monday, August 24, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Apostle School, 479 E. 4th Avenue, Hialeah, in the school cafeteria. Directors will receive information about the calculation of the 2008-09 VPK Readiness Rate and information about the new Florida Assessment for Instruction in Reading.

WHEN: Monday, August 24, 2009
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. John the Apostle School
479 E. 4th Avenue, Hialeah

For more information, please contact the Department of Education Office of Early Learning at 1-866-447-1159 or via email, earlylearning@fldoe.org.

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