



REMINDERS



Applications for the summer program are currently being accepted. The deadline to submit your completed application is **March 30, 2008**. Please remember the staff requirements are different from the school year. For more information, you can download the VPK Summer Application Checklist on our website at www.vpkhelp.org. Do not use any VPK forms dated prior to May 2007.

Children who attended VPK during the school year do not qualify for the summer program.

Summer VPK consist of 300 instructional hours. You may schedule your program to offer 4, 5, 6, or 7hrs of instructions daily, depending on the number of weeks you will operate. Please remember that these young 4 years old children need a rest time. That time is not covered by VPK. However, VPK does cover the meals if there is an instructional activity included, and the VPK teacher is leading that activity.

Low Performing Providers for 2005-2006, the second progress report was due on February 29, 2008. You may still submit your report by login to DOE website <https://vpk.fldoe.org> with your username and password or call the DOE at 1-866-447-1159.

VPK Readiness Rate for 2006-2007 school year

The readiness rates for 06-07 have been posted and can be viewed at <https://vpk.fldoe.org>. Click on the VPK Provider Readiness Rates link which will take you to the Readiness Rate Search page. Make sure to check the program type (school year or summer) and your coalition (Miami-Dade/Monroe). To view information on VPK providers statewide, click the "All Learning Coalitions" box.

The minimum Readiness Rate is 211. Any provider with a score below 211 is considered a Low Performing Provider (LPP). **All Low Performing Providers must acknowledge their low performing status on the website by March 11, 2008.** Providers need to login with user ID and password in order to complete the acknowledgment. Please note, failure to acknowledge by the due date will prevent you from offering VPK for school year 2008-2009.

Florida Department of Education Updates Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program Standards Rules Development Workshops in Miami-Dade

The DOE Office of Early Learning is conducting a Rules Development Workshop in Miami-Dade County to hear Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Providers' input on the current 2005 VPK Education Performance Standards and proposed changes to these standards for 2008.

Participants will have an opportunity to share ideas and feedback about the format of the book, proposed changes and other information specific to the VPK Education Standards.

The Rules Development Workshop will be held **Thursday, March 13, 2008**, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm at the *Miami Lakes Child Development Services Office*; 15790 NW 57th Avenue, Miami Lakes, FL.

English Language Learner in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)

The DOE Office of Early Learning has developed a self-paced training called "*English Language Learners in the VPK Classroom*". This learning module was developed based upon the suggestions of many VPK teachers, directors and owners of early childhood centers across the state.

It is recommended all VPK teachers and directors take the training for its emphasis on vocabulary development in young children. In addition, it assists in linking activities planned for all children based on the VPK Education Program. The training is now available on-line at **no cost** at www.flvpkonline.org/ELL/.