

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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December 16, 2011

«PROVIDER_NAME»
«STREET» «STREET2»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP_CODE»

«OEL_ID_1011»

Dear Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program Provider:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with your individual user ID and provide an overview of the steps in the 2010-11 VPK readiness rate.

As a VPK provider, we encourage you to visit the VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate Web site at <https://vpk.fldoe.org>. The preliminary readiness rates will be posted the week of **December 15-19, 2011**. You should **log in** to your provider homepage **using the 4-digit User ID listed above** and the password "**ready2012**". Please note that the first time you log in, the system will have you create a new unique password. Please remember and safeguard your password.

Through the Web site, you have the opportunity to:

- Review/correct the name, gender or date of birth of children who attended your 2010-11 VPK program. These changes will be reviewed automatically and do not require approval by the Department or coalition
- Submit changes to the hours attended if the changes result in a child being included or removed from the substantial completion category. All such changes must be reviewed and approved or denied by the coalition
- See if the children were matched to their kindergarten screening results. If a child has not been matched and you know where they attend kindergarten, you may send that information to us at earlylearning@fldoe.org
- View your 2010-11 preliminary provider readiness rate
- File a dispute based on the number of children served, meeting substantial completion, screened or included in the readiness rate or the ownership of the center.

There are several changes to the readiness rate process and calculation this year. The verification and dispute processes will now take place concurrently. Although the processes have been combined, providers do not have to complete both. You can perform verification and submit changes without filing a dispute and vice versa.

The major changes are the criteria for calculating the rate and the designation and consequences of not meeting the readiness rate. In prior years the rate was the combined percentages of children ready on each measure (ECHOS and FAIR) of the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS). This year the rate will be calculated as the percentage of children ready on **both** measures. This change will result in the readiness rate scale being reduced from 0-200 to 0-100.

The provision that the rate be set so that no more than fifteen percent of providers be declared low performing was removed by the legislature. Additionally the requirement that providers who don't meet the readiness rate for two consecutive years purchase a state-approved curriculum was reduced to one year.

Additional information is available in the *Frequently Asked Questions* posted on the Readiness Rate Web site.

(Over)

The VPK Accountability Announcements box on the homepage shows each step in the readiness rate process and their targeted dates. A **listing of these steps and targeted dates are below.**

Instructions and additional information can be accessed by clicking each specific step. Please feel free to contact us at 1-866-447-1159 or at earlylearning@fldoe.org for additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,



Stuart Greenberg

SG/tm

c: Executive Director, Early Learning Coalition
District Contacts
Dr. Mel Jurado, Executive Director, Florida's Office of Early Learning

TIMELINES - READINESS RATES

(dates shown are subject to change)

- Preliminary Readiness Rate Posted December 19-21, 2011
- Provider Verification/Dispute period December 19-21, 2011 – January 20, 2012
- Coalition Approval period December 19-21, 2011 – January 27, 2012
- Final Readiness Rate posted - February, 2012
- State Board of Education sets minimum rate – March, 2012
- Acknowledgement of Low Performing Due - March, 2012
- Improvement Plans Due – April, 2012