

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Implementing Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program

The Department of Education/Office of Early Learning (DOE/OEL) works in collaboration with the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education program, with specific responsibilities for the following:

- Administration of accountability requirements at the state-level
- Provision of professional development including emergent literacy and director credential course(s)
- Approval of VPK director credential requirements
- Adoption/administration of a statewide kindergarten screening
- Review and approval of curricula for providers on probation for failure to meet readiness rate
- Calculation of kindergarten readiness rate
- Articulation of the Child Development Associate (CDA) or Florida Child Care Professional Certificate (FCCPC) (previously referred to as the Florida CDA-Equivalency (CDA-E)) credential toward a post secondary degree.

Recent VPK Accomplishments

- The VPK Assessment was released statewide in September 2010 as an optional progress monitoring tool for teachers to assist in guiding instruction for VPK students and is now available for purchase. For additional information on the VPK Assessment and how to purchase please visit <http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/assessments.asp>.
- A review of the 2009 kindergarten screening data showed that children who completed the 2008-09 VPK program outperformed their peers on both kindergarten screening measures. For more information, go to http://www.fldoe.org/news/2010/2010_03_25-2.asp.
- The Training Management System (TMS) is available for providers to register for Professional Development opportunities at www.myflorida.com/childcare.
- The online VPK Teacher Toolkit which includes folders targeting Language and Vocabulary and Mathematical Thinking in the VPK classroom is available at www.flvpkonline.org/teachertoolkit.
- 152,356 children or 93% are enrolled in the 2010-11 School Year VPK Program (as of January 2011)

DOE Online Courses

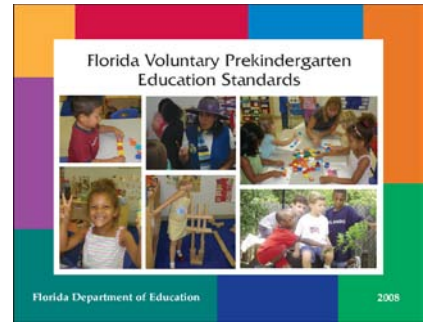
Course (Release Date)	Participants from July 1, 2010 - January 31, 2011	Total Participants as of January 31, 2011	Participants who Successfully Completed the Course
Emergent Literacy Online Course (2006)	4,263	71,292	54,014 (76%)
VPK Director Credential Online Course (2006)	1,234	21,797	12,930 (59%)
English Language Learners Online Course (2009)	1,308	6,393	5,678 (89%)
Language and Vocabulary Online Course (2010)	2,051	5,536	4,184 (76%)

Selected DOE Instructor Led Courses

Course (Release Date)	Manuals Distributed as of January 31, 2011
VPK Standards Training (2005)	17,408
VPK Standards Training (2008)	19,906
Total	37,314
It's Okay to Play Parent Workshop (2007)	155,065

DOE/OEL provides training and technical assistance through regularly-scheduled telephone conference calls with school districts and coalitions, product distribution, video teleconferences, other meeting and conference presentations, and its website.

DOE/OEL provides a network of VPK Regional Facilitators working with early learning coalitions and public and private providers throughout the state. Facilitators conduct training on various topics to include the VPK Education Standards. If you are interested in viewing and/or registering for a DOE-approved online or instructor-led course, please go to DCF's website at <https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/dcf/cct/reg/courseselector>



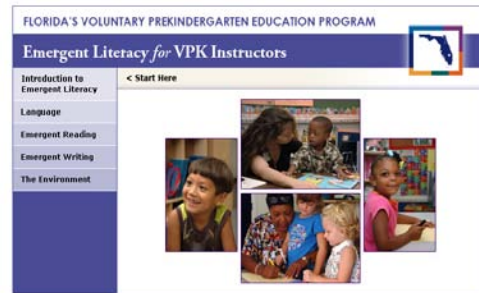
Coming Soon

One Set of Four Year Old Standards

The Agency for Workforce Innovation's Office of Early Learning and the Florida Department of Education's Office of Early Learning are collaborating to create one set of four-year-old standards for children throughout the state. These standards are expected to be available for the 2011-12 school year.

2009-2010 VPK Provider Readiness Rates

Final VPK Provider Readiness Rates were released on February 25, 2011. The State Board of Education is scheduled to meet on March 15, 2011 to approve the final the Low Performing Provider rate.



For further information on DOE VPK initiatives or any of these materials, please contact

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