

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item

November 11, 2009

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.099821, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1002.69(5),(6), 1002.73(2)(d), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Calculation of VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate

[Section 1002.69\(5\), Florida Statutes](#), requires the State Board of Education to adopt procedures for the Department of Education to annually calculate each VPK provider's kindergarten readiness rate, which must be expressed as the percentage of the provider's or school's students who are assessed as ready for kindergarten. To gather public input for the procedures to be used for the calculation of the 2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate, [eight rule development workshops](#) were held in August - September with individuals representing VPK providers and teachers, early learning coalitions, and public school districts in attendance.

Statewide Kindergarten Screening

[Section 1002.69\(1\), Florida Statutes](#), directs the Florida Department of Education to establish a kindergarten readiness screening based upon standards adopted by the State Board of Education, under Section 1002.67(1), F.S., for the VPK Education Program. These [VPK Education Standards](#) describe what children should know and be able to do at the end of the VPK year in the areas of Physical Health, Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Communication, Emergent Literacy, Mathematical and Scientific Thinking, Social Studies and The Arts, and Motor Development.

For the 2006-07 through 2008-09 school years, Florida's statewide kindergarten screening consisted of a subset of the Early Childhood Observation System (ECHOS) and two measures from the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) administered within the first 30 days of kindergarten. ECHOS is a brief observational screening instrument that is designed to measure a child's performance across seven developmental areas that are aligned with the VPK Education Standards. The two DIBELS measures, Letter Naming Fluency (LNF) and Initial Sound Fluency (ISF), are screening instruments

designed to measure specific skills that are important in learning to read and that are specifically aligned with Florida's VPK standards in the area of emergent literacy.

Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, the two DIBELS measures were replaced with the Broad Screen and the Broad Diagnostic Inventory of the new Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR). The Broad Screen includes measures for Letter Naming and Phonemic Awareness. The scores from these two measures are combined to compute a Probability of Reading Success Score (PRS). The Broad Diagnostic Inventory includes measures in Listening Comprehension and Vocabulary ([refer to March 17, 2009 SBOE Presentation on Next Generation Assessments](#)). The ECHOS will continue to be used for kindergarten screening for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years as the current contract expires in March, 2011. Prior to the 2011-12 school year, the Department will issue a Request for Proposals to secure a new contract for the kindergarten screening for the subsequent school years.

For the purpose of calculating the 2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate, the results from the ECHOS and the Broad Screen (Probability of Reading Success score) will be used. To be "ready for kindergarten," a child should:

- Score at the Demonstrating or Emerging/Progressing level on the ECHOS measure
- Have a Probability of Reading Success score of .67 (67 percentile) or higher.

Amendment to Rule 6A-1.099821, F.A.C.

The rule, as proposed for adoption by the SBOE, for the calculation of the 2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate includes:

- deleting references to the use of the Letter Naming Fluency Measure of the -Indicadores Dinamicos del Exito en la Lectura (IDEL)
- updating the year referenced for the readiness rate
- requiring that disputes be submitted online (www.vpk.fldoe.org)
- revising the procedures for calculating the readiness rate
- changing the scale score from 300 to 200.

It is anticipated that the 2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates will be released by March 2010.

Supporting Documentation Included: Rule 6A-1.099821, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. Frances Haithcock, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools and Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning