

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
February 25, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.100, Definitions

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1001.213(2), Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Office of Early Learning (OEL) administers federal and state child care funds and partners with 30 local early learning coalitions to deliver comprehensive early learning services statewide. The office oversees three programs—the School Readiness Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program, and Child Care Resource and Referral services. OEL is required to submit its proposed rules to the State Board of Education for approval.

The proposed rule amendment updates common terms used in the VPK program to align with recent Florida Statutes and rule revisions.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6M-8.100, Definitions

**Facilitator:** Rodney MacKinnon, Interim Executive Director, Office of Early Learning

### **6M-8.100 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, the term:

- (1) "Absence" means each instructional day that a child does not attend (is absent from) a VPK program.
- ~~(2) "Admission" is a step in the process of enrolling a child in the VPK program. It means a VPK provider agrees to enroll (or admit) the child to its VPK program.~~
- (2) "Advance payment" is the process of a Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) provider choosing to receive an advance payment, prior to providing services, instead of a reimbursement for services rendered as described in Rule 6M-8.205(2), F.A.C.
- (3) "Attendance" means an instructional day, either in whole or in part, that a child is present (or attends) a VPK program.
- ~~(4) "Child Application" means Form OEL VPK 01 (Child Application) incorporated by reference in Rule 6M-8.201, F.A.C.~~
- ~~(5) "Class application" means Form OEL VPK 11 (Class Registration Application) incorporated by reference in Rule 6M-8.300, F.A.C.~~
- ~~(4)(6) "Coalition" means an early learning coalition created under Section 1002.83 411.01(5), F.S.~~
- ~~(5) (7) "Enrollment" is the final step in the process of entering (or enrolling) a child in the VPK program. It means officially entering the child's name in the statewide information system as a VPK student associated with a VPK provider.~~
- ~~(8) "Excused absence" means an instructional day from which a child is absent from a VPK program for a reason listed in paragraph 6M-8.204(3)(b), F.A.C.~~
- ~~(6) (9) "Instructional day" means a calendar day that a VPK provider delivers scheduled instruction for the VPK program.~~
- (7) "Instructional hour" means 60 minutes of instructional time that comprises planned activities or experiences implementing a curriculum that enhances a child's progress in attaining the VPK performance standards adopted in Rule 6M-8.602, F.A.C.
- ~~(8) (10) "Parent" has the same meaning as the term defined in Section 1000.21, F.S.~~
- ~~(9) (11) "Program year" means the annual period beginning in one calendar year on the first day that a school-year program may begin instruction under ~~subsection~~ Rule 6M-8.204(3), 6M-8.451(1), F.A.C., and ending in the next calendar year on the last day by which a summer program must complete instruction under Rule 6M-8.204(3), subsection 6M-8.451(2), F.A.C. A program year is designated by the corresponding calendar years (e.g., 2014-2015, 2015-2016 2007-2008, 2008-2009).~~
- ~~(12) "Provider application" means Form OEL VPK 10 (Statewide Provider Registration Application) incorporated by reference in Rule 6M-8.300, F.A.C.~~
- ~~(13) "Qualified contractor" means an entity performing the duties of coalition under contract, including conducting the parent orientation session or video exhibition; registering a provider, child or class; determining child or provider eligibility; and enrolling children in the statewide information system. This definition does not include a private entity that derives more than 5 percent of its income, excluding income that the entity derives from the~~

Federal Government for Head Start, from providing child care as defined in Section 402.302, F.S. This definition does not include a school district or public school. A coalition is ultimately responsible for its duties when they are performed by a qualified contractor.

~~(14)~~ “Registration” is a step in the enrollment process. To register a child in the VPK program means to submit the Child Application form and supporting documents to a coalition for evaluation, in order to determine the child’s eligibility for the program.

~~(10)~~ ~~(45)~~ “School-year program” means a school-year prekindergarten program consisting of 540 instructional hours delivered by a private provider under Section 1002.55, F.S., or by a public school under Section 1002.63, F.S.

~~(11)~~ ~~(46)~~ “Summer program” means a summer prekindergarten program consisting of 300 instructional hours delivered by a private provider or public school under Section 1002.61, F.S.

~~(17)~~ “Unexcused absence” means an instructional day from which a child is absent from a VPK program which is not an excused absence under paragraph ~~6M-8.204(3)(b)~~, F.A.C.

~~(12)~~ ~~(48)~~ “VPK class” means a private provider’s or public school’s prekindergarten class that includes a child in the VPK program.

~~(13)~~ ~~(49)~~ “VPK program” means the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education program created under Section 1002.53, F.S., and which is organized, designed, and delivered in accordance with Section 1(b) and (c), Article IX of the State Constitution.

~~(14)~~ ~~(20)~~ “VPK provider” means a provider delivering the VPK school-year program or summer program. There are two types of VPK providers: private prekindergarten providers as defined in Section 1002.51, F.S. and public schools.

~~(15)~~ “VPK SIS provider” means a provider delivering the VPK specialized instructional services (SIS) program defined in Section 1002.66, F.S.

~~(16)~~ ~~(24)~~ “VPK site” means the permanent physical location where a private provider or public school delivers instruction for the VPK program.

*Rulemaking Authority 1001.213(2), ~~1002.79(2)~~ FS. Law Implemented 1002.51, 1002.53(2), ~~(4)~~, ~~1002.55(2)~~, ~~(3)(g)~~, 1002.61(2)(a), ~~(7)(a)~~, 1002.63(2), ~~(8)~~, 1002.71(2), ~~(6)(d)~~, 1002.66, 1002.75(2)(a), ~~(e)~~, ~~(d)~~ FS. History—New 1-19-06, Amended 5-24-07, Formerly 60BB-8.100, Amended \_\_\_\_\_.*