

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
March 17, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.301, Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program

---

**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.

OEL is required to comply with lead agency responsibilities in the administration of the VPK Education Program. OEL must implement specific program eligibility requirements, which includes provider eligibility. In accordance with Section 1002.75(1), Florida Statutes, OEL is required to: “Adopt by rule a standard statewide provider contract to be used with each Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider, with standardized attachments by provider type.” Rule 6M-8.301, F.A.C., establishes the standard statewide provider contract and standardized attachments.

The rule text, Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program, was amended to 1) update the form dates that will be applicable at the time the rule becomes effective and for the 2021-22 contract year and 2) remove the paragraph regarding ineligibility for multi-site providers and adding it to Form OEL-VPK 20, Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program.

Form OEL-VPK 20, Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program, was amended as follows:

- Added a paragraph for eligibility to address E-Verify requirements of s. 448.095, F.S., that were effective January 1, 2021.
- Added language specifying the Child Certificate of Eligibility as the eligibility certificate form.
- Removed redundant language related to assessment.
- Added statutory reference for class staffing.
- Added statutory and rule reference related to assessment.
- Added rule reference related to parent attendance certification.
- Added rule reference related to readiness rates.
- Added language to address good cause exemption requirements.
- Added failure to abide by s. 448.095, F.S. as a basis for termination of cause.
- Added revocation of eligibility provisions for multi-site providers. OEL removed from the rule text and placed in this paragraph.

- Added rule reference regarding notification requirements for providers to report temporary closures and reopening.
- Added an electronic signature attestation.

Form OEL-VPK 20A, Amendment to Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program, was amended to add an electronic signature attestation.

There are no changes other than an update to the form dates for the OEL-VPK 20PP, Statewide VPK Provider Contract Private Provider Attachment Form, OEL-VPK 20PS, Statewide VPK Provider Contract Public School Attachment Form and OEL-VPK 20B VPK, Logotype Usage and Brand Guidelines.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6M-8.301 F.A.C. Forms OEL-VPK 20, Standard Statewide VPK Provider Contract; OEL-VPK 20A, Amendment to Statewide VPK Provider Contract; OEL-SR 20PP, Statewide VPK Provider Contract Private Provider Attachment; OEL-VPK 20PS, Statewide VPK Provider Contract Public School Attachment; and OEL-VPK 20B, VPK Logotype Usage and Brand Guidelines

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning