

I. CHILD AND PROGRAM INFORMATION

Type or print in black or blue ink

To be eligible for the VPK program, a child must be 4 years old, but not yet 5 years old, on September 1st.

1. VPK program year		2. Preferred program schedule (check one): School-year program (540 hours): <input type="checkbox"/> School year <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/spring only <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/winter only <input type="checkbox"/> Summer program (300 hours)		3. Preferred program setting: <input type="checkbox"/> Private provider (child care, private school, faith-based) <input type="checkbox"/> Public school	
4. Child's first name		Middle name		Last name	
6. Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)		7. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		8. Social security number ¹	
9. Primary spoken language					
10. Home address (number and street)					
11. City		12. County		13. State FLORIDA	
14. ZIP+4 Code		15. In which county do you wish your child to receive VPK services?		16. Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	
17. Race <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White			

¹ NOTE.—See the Privacy Act Statement concerning social security numbers in the instructions accompanying this application.

II. PARENT OR GUARDIAN INFORMATION

18. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. First name		Middle name		Last name	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ms.				Jr./Sr./III	
19. Parent's or guardian's home address (number and street)					<input type="checkbox"/> Same as child's address
20. City		21. County		22. State	
23. ZIP+4 Code		24. Relationship to child		25. Daytime telephone	
26. Home telephone		27. Email (optional)			
Other parent or guardian (if applicable)					
28. First name		Middle name		Last name	
Jr./Sr./III		29. Relationship to child		30. Home address of other parent or guardian: <input type="checkbox"/> Same as child's address	

III. OTHER EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS (optional)

Your family may be eligible for other early learning programs or services for you and your children, from infants through school-age, including full-day school readiness services, resource and referral, Florida Kid Care, and social services.

31. Would you like to receive information about other early learning programs or services? (check one) YES NO

IV. CERTIFICATION

I have examined this application and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided is true and correct. If I enroll my child in the VPK program, I understand that my child will be required to participate in the statewide kindergarten screening to determine readiness for kindergarten. I understand that transportation for the program is my (parent's or guardian's) responsibility. I also understand that it is my responsibility to locate an eligible VPK provider or school and enroll my child with the provider or school. I understand that I may enroll my child in either a school-year program (540 instructional hours) or a summer program (300 instructional hours). I further understand that I (parent or guardian) must follow the provider's or school's attendance policy and verify my child's attendance each month.

32. Parent or guardian signature		33. Date	
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OFFICIAL USE ONLY					
Process agent	Date	Process manager	Date	DOB verification	_____
				Residency	_____
				Parent signature	_____
				Child eligibility	_____

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S INFORMATION FORM

USE OF CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

Dear Parent/Guardian: Please print and complete the left-hand side of this form. Bring this form with you along with the Child Application to the VPK Registration site. You and the VPK Registrar will complete the right-hand side of the form at registration. Thank you.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone Number: () _____
 Parent/Guardian SS#: _____
 Child's Name: _____

I was informed that it is not mandatory for me to give my or my child's Social Security number on the forms I completed:

Yes No

I, the parent/guardian, am planning to start my child in a VPK Program during the following time period (please check one below):

School Year (August-June) Fall/Winter (January-May)
 Summer (June-August) Undecided

I became aware of the VPK program from: (Check All that Apply):

Flyer/Poster Radio VPK Staff Family Central
 Internet Public School Friend Family
 Early Learning Coalition Child Care Provider

I am currently receiving child care services through Family Central:

Yes No

PARENT/GUARDIAN ORIENTATION PACKET

I, the parent/guardian, received information covering:

- Resource and Referral Brochure
- Next Steps Letter
- VPK Program At-A-Glance
- Additional Resources for Families Information
- ELC Fact Sheet
- A Quality Checklist
- Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) - Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading - Kindergarten (FAIR-K)
- Access to the Provider Profile

 Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

 VPK Orientation Staff Signature _____ Date _____

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Do children look happy, involved in activities and well cared for?

Do teachers get on the child's eye level to listen, talk and play with the children?

Do teachers give individual attention to each child?

Are teachers warm, kind, calm and patient?

Are there sufficient materials such as blocks, books, puzzles, art supplies and toys for all the children, and are they available throughout the day?

Are well planned activities such as music, painting and dress-up play provided for children?

Does the facility seem cheerful, clean and safe with equipment in good repair?

Is hand washing and diaper changing done frequently?

Is there adequate indoor space for play, naps, meals, and belongings?

Is the outdoor play area fenced, safe, well-equipped and supervised at all times?

QUESTIONS TO ASK:

Is the program licensed? Accredited?

Are references and background checks conducted on staff?

Do staff practice fire drills and evacuation procedures regularly?

How many of the teaching staff have been employed in this facility or home for more than one year?

Does the person who will be teaching your child have training in early childhood education, First Aid and CPR?

How many children are there for each adult? (adult to child ratio)

How many children are in your child's group? (smaller group size can be a quality indicator)

Are there policies/procedures in place for dropping off and picking up children?

Are there policies/procedures in place to ensure that all children are present and accounted for during and following outdoor play, field trips, and other transition periods?

Do teachers have written policies and procedures, including emergency plans, vacations, and substitutes?

Are there written policies/information regarding: philosophy of education for young children; discipline; on-going staff education/training; illness and injuries; napping; and toileting habits?

Do teachers welcome parent visits any time of the day and encourage parent involvement?

Are creative activities (e.g. music, art) offered? Are they included in the rate?

Are meals/snacks provided? Are they included in the rate?

What rates are charged? Are there additional fees for registration, materials, or field trips?

Will your child be happy in this program?

Observation Tips

Make an informed decision

Like any parent, your first concerns are for the safety, health, and welfare of your child. Every program will have positive characteristics, but only you can decide which things are most important for you and your child.

Look and Listen

You can tell a great deal by observing and listening to what is going on in the classroom or home. Do the children seem happy and were they enjoying activities? Do the teachers seem to be loving, nurturing, and responsive to all children in their care? Are problems handled promptly and appropriately? Do the teachers seem like people you can trust with the health, happiness and well being of your child? Is this a place where you would feel good about your child spending many hours each day?

Ask questions

If you have any questions or concerns, write them down as they occur to you. Ask for an opportunity to have your questions answered or your concerns addressed.

Pay attention to your instincts

You know your child best. Pay attention to any feelings of uneasiness you may have experienced during your visit. Can you picture your child in this

setting? Were the toys and activities you observed the kinds your child would enjoy? If your child was with you on your visit, what was his reaction? Keep in mind that children respond in their own unique ways to new situations. Also, don't rule out other factors that could influence your child's reaction (for example, being hungry, tired, having a natural fear of new people or places). Trust your instincts and your ability to make wise decisions for your child.

When cost is a factor

Carefully weigh the "pros" and "cons" of each teacher and facility that you visited. Decide which facility satisfies the greatest number of your priorities at a rate that you can afford. Keep in mind that the highest cost doesn't always guarantee the best teacher and facility. Likewise, the least expensive rates do not necessarily mean poor teachers and facilities.

A good choice

Now that you have done your homework and some careful thinking, you are ready to make your choice. Remember, selecting and placing your child in an early learning program is just the beginning. You will want to talk to the new teacher often and make occasional visits to ensure that your child is safe and happy and that your decision was the right one.

For more information contact:



AMI/Office of Early Learning
107 East Madison Street
MSC 140

Tallahassee, FL 32399

www.fready.com or call toll free at: 1-866-357-3239
(1-866 FL READY) • (TTY: 711)

December 2008

A Quality Checklist

For Evaluating Early Learning Programs

NEXT STEPS LETTER
CONGRATULATIONS!
YOUR CHILD IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE VPK PROGRAM.

NEXT STEPS: FIND A VPK PROVIDER!

1. Using the Provider Profile List, please select a VPK provider. Provider profile list will be updated twice a month. These can be found at www.elcbroward.org or www.familycentral.org/vpkparentsbc.
2. For School Year 2011-2012, contact the VPK provider to see if the provider will enroll your child(ren).
3. If the VPK provider agrees to enroll your child(ren), then for each child, you must give the Provider one (1) copy of the Certificate of Eligibility that you received from Family Central:
 - **School Year 2011-2012 program** – Parent/Guardian receives 2 copies - Green and Pink. Both the parent/guardian and the provider sign off on both certificates. Provider keeps the Green copy; parent/guardian keeps the Pink copy for his/her records.
 - **Summer 2011 program** - Parent/Guardian receives 2 copies - Yellow and Pink. Both the parent/guardian and the provider sign off on both certificates. Provider keeps the Yellow copy; parent/guardian keeps the Pink copy for his/her records.
4. If the provider does not have space available, you must choose another provider.
5. Once you have located a VPK provider who agrees to enroll your child(ren), please follow the same steps stated above.

You have now completed the enrollment process for VPK! Please speak to your provider about additional paperwork you may have to submit as part of the provider's normal procedures.

Thank you for choosing to participate in the State of Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

If you have any further questions, please call the VPK Hotline at 1-866-YOU-4-VPK (1-866-968-4875) or visit the web at www.vpkflorida.org. Thank you.

KONPLIMAN!
PITIT OU KALIFYE POU PROGRAM VPK LA.

CHÈCHE YON LEKOL KI GENYEN PROGRAM VPK!!

1. Le ou ap sevi avek list lekòl la, tanpri chwazi yon Lekòl ki ofri VPK. Nap gen yon nouvo list Lekòl de fwa pa mwa. Ou ap jwenn list sa online nan www.elcbroward.org la nan www.familycentral.org.
2. Pou Ane Lekòl 2011-2012, kontakte Lekòl VPK la pou gade pou ouè si lap enskri ti moun ou (yo).
3. Si Lekòl VPK la dakò pou enskri pitit ou (yo), men sa ou gen pou fè, pou chak ti moun, ou dwe bay lekòl VPK la yon kopi nan Sètifika Eljibilite (*Certificate of Eligibility*) ke ou te rezewwa de Family Central, Inc.:
 - **Program Ane Lekòl 2011-2012** -Paren resevoua 2 copi – vet ak rose. Ni paren ni direkte siyen tou le 2 cetifica yo. Direkte kenbe copi vet-la, paren kinbe copi ros-la.
 - **Program pou ete 2011-** paren ou gadien timoun la ap recevoi 2 copis cetifica ou jaun ou ros. Paren/gadien ak lekòl la ap signin tout 2 cetifica yo, lekòl la ap kimbe copi jaune la parent ap kimbe copi ros la.
4. Si lekòl VPK la pa gen plas, ou oblije pou chwazi yon lòt lekòl VPK epi swiv menm direksyon ki liste anlè-a.
5. Yon fwa ou jwenn yon lekòl VPK ki dakò pou aksepte ti moun-nan, suiv menm direksyon yo ba wou yo.

Kounye-la ou te fini avèk pwosè enskripsyon VPK la! Tanpri pale avèk lekòl VPK ou-a sou afè lòt kalite papye ou gen pou ranpli epi pou soumèt selon pwosè nòmàl lekòl.

Mèsi dèske ou te chwazi pou patisipe nan Program Edikasyon Prejaden Volontè Leta Florid-a (*State of Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program*).

Si ou gen plis keksyon, tanpri rele Lign VPK la (*VPK Hotline*) nan 1-866-YOU-4-VPK (1-866-968-4875) oswa vizite websayt la nan www.vpkflorida.org. Mèsi anpil.

(over)

¡FELICITACIONES!
SU HIJO ESTÁ AUTORIZADO A PARTICIPAR DEL PROGRAMA DE VPK.

LÓS PRÓXIMOS PASOS: ENCUENTRE UNA ESCUELA VPK!

1. Como usar la Lista de Perfil de Proveedores, Seleccione una escuela VPK en la Lista de perfiles que ha recibido. La lista de perfiles de los proveedores es actualizada dos veces al mes. Se puede localizar en www.elcbroward.org o www.familycentral.org.
2. **Para el año escolar 2011-2012**, póngase en contacto con la preescuela para averiguar si tiene posiciones vacantes para matricular a su(s) hijo(s).
3. Si la escuela VPK acepta matricular a su(s) hijo(s), usted debe presentarle una copia del Certificado de Autorización que recibió de Family Central, Inc. por cada uno de ellos:
 - Programa del año escolar 2011-2012 – El Padre/Guardian recibe 2 copias – verde y rosada. Ambos, el Padre/Guardian y el Proveedor firman la copia verde. El Proveedor se queda con la copia verde y el Padre/Guardian con la rosada para su archivo.
 - Program de Verano 2011 – El Padre/Guardian recibe 2 copias – verde y rosada. Ambos, el Padre/Guardian y el Proveedor firman la copia verde. El Proveedor se queda con la copia verde y el Padre/Guardian con la copia rosada para su archive.
4. Si el Proveedor no tiene cupos vacantes, Usted debe seleccionar otro Proveedor y seguir los pasos descritos anteriormente.
5. Una vez que ha localizado un Proveedor de VPK que acepta matricular a su niño(s) favor de seguir los pasos mencionados arriba.

Ahora, ya ha completado el proceso de matrícula en el programa de VPK. Sírvase conversar con el personal de la escuela VPK sobre la documentación adicional que pueda tener que presentar como parte de los procedimientos normales del establecimiento.

Le agradecemos su decisión de participar del Programa de Educación Preescolar Voluntaria del Estado de la Florida.

En caso de dudas, llame a la línea directa del programa VPK al 1-866-YOU-4-VPK (1-866-968-4875) o visite el sitio web: www.vpkflorida.org. Gracias.



Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program Information At-A-Glance

- **Vision:** Florida's children are eager to learn and ready to succeed when they enter kindergarten.
- **Mission:** To ensure that all children are intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially ready to enter school and ready to learn; fully recognizing the crucial role of parents/guardians as their child's first teacher
- **Highlights of the VPK Program:**
 - High quality education program with an early literacy focus.
 - FREE for all children 4 years old on or before September 1 who reside in Florida
 - No income requirements
 - No registration fee
 - All VPK providers must meet the high standards required by Florida law
 - Curriculum is developmentally appropriate, focuses on early literacy skills, and prepares the child to be ready for kindergarten based on the VPK standards adopted by the Florida State Board of Education
- **Program Options:**
 - **School Year Program** - 540 Instructional Hours.
Examples:
 - 3 instructional hours per day for 180 days
 - 4 instructional hours per day for 135 days
 - 6 instructional hours per day for 90 days
 - **Summer Program** - 300 Instructional Hours
 Schedule varies depending on the number of days the program is offered – may offer a 7.5 hour day
- **Reenrollment:** A parent may only reenroll (often called transfers) **ONE time** during the VPK program year - **NO** exceptions. For example, a parent has already reenrolled a child from one school to another; the parent may not do so again, and the child does not get to use any more VPK instructional hours.

 Parents wishing to reenroll a child will **only** be seen at Family Central, Inc. during work hours. Parents/Guardians know will complete a Reenrollment Application to be left for review by a VPK Registrar within two business days. During the month of March, this review will only occur on Fridays as all VPK Registrars are in the field Monday – Thursday.

• **INSTRUCTORS – SCHOOL YEAR:**

- **VPK Instructors for the School Year** must have a minimum of a **National Early Childhood Certificate (NECC)**, formerly CDA, or a **Florida Child Care Professional Credential - FCCPC** (formerly the CDAE)

# of Children Minimum	# of Children Maximum	Child to Teacher Ratio
4	18	1: 10 or 2:18

• **INSTRUCTORS – SUMMER:**

- **VPK Instructors for the Summer** must have a **Bachelor's Degree** in specified areas.

# of Children Minimum	# of Children Maximum	Child to Teacher Ratio
4	12	1:12

- **Absence Policy:** The VPK program parent/guardian selects must have parent/guardian sign a copy of its absence policy at enrollment.
- **VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate:** Each VPK child is screened within the first 30 days of kindergarten to determine his/her kindergarten readiness. To see a VPK provider's readiness rate scores, go to <https://vpk.fldoe.org>.
- **Parent/Guardian Involvement:** Research has documented the positive effect that parent involvement in a child's education can have on the success of the child being ready for school. Parents/Guardians must be the child's first teacher.
- **VPK Education Standards:** lists all the skills a 4 year old child should have developed prior to kindergarten. The Florida Department of Education Office of early Learning 2008 VPK Education Standards can be found at: http://fldoe.org/early_learning/pdf/vpkedstandard.pdf.
 - **Includes areas such as:**
 - Initial sounds and letters
 - Math
 - Language and Communication
 - Knowledge of print and letters
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Social and Emotional Development
 - Vocabulary and Comprehension Development

840 SW 81st Avenue • North Lauderdale, FL 33068-2001



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

WILL YOU REQUIRE FINANCIALLY ASSISTED CHILD CARE FOR YOUR VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN (VPK) CHILD?

If you would like to find out if you qualify for financially assisted child care for your VPK child, please call the Resource and Referral Department at Family Central, Inc. at 954-724-4609.

- A Resource Counselor will return your call and will be able to screen you for financially assisted child care. Eligibility is based on your income and family size.
- The Resource Counselor will be able to discuss what you should look for when choosing a VPK/child care provider by giving you information on local child care licensing regulations, how to choose a quality child care program, and how to proceed with your search.

LINK YOUR FAMILIES TO SERVICES/RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY

If you have unmet social service needs (such as housing assistance, mental health counseling, clothing, food, etc.), please call the Resource and Referral Department at Family Central, Inc. at 954-724-3887.

- If you would like to be referred to a Social Service Coordinator, please call the Resource and Referral Department at Family Central, Inc. at 954-724-3887.
- A Social Service Coordinator will return your call and will be happy to work with you directly.

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION AND SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES

A child's success in kindergarten is directly related to the support of the family in the child's early education. The parent plays a key role in the development of the child and his/her ability to learn skills necessary to succeed in kindergarten.

- **Broward County's Early Care and Education Service System and Supports for Families**

Information on the Early Care and Education System and the availability of supports for families can be found on FCI's website under Parent Resources:

<http://www.familycentral.org/BCParentResources>

- **Education Around the Elements of Early Learning and Family Engagement and Involvement in Support of Children's School Readiness**

Information can be found on the following website:

http://www.foreverfamilies.net/xml/articles/parents_first_teachers.aspx?



Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.
Fact Sheet

- The Florida Legislature passed the School Readiness Act in 1999, creating the Florida Partnership for School Readiness (FPSR) and called for the formation of local school readiness coalitions to improve the readiness of children when they enter school. The Broward County School Readiness Coalition, Inc. was formed in June of 2000.

Since that time:

- *The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.* (formerly the *Broward County School Readiness Coalition, Inc.*) has been dedicated to the implementation of an integrated, high-quality, seamless early care and education service delivery system for children.
- *The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc. (ELC)* has been accountable for assessing the early care and educational resources available in Broward County, as well as developing local plans to address identified needs. The Coalition itself is made up of 25 diverse board members from the private sector, as well as various community/human service organizations in Broward County. Additionally, 13 staff members work for the Coalition.
- *ELC* has funded and overseen a system of services designed to help ensure that Broward County children are ready for school upon entry into kindergarten, while also ensuring that parents have access to the necessary support services for strength and stability. The Coalition has partnered with Family Central, Inc., Broward County Public Schools, Nova Southeastern University, University of Miami, United Way of Broward County, Broward County Health Department, Children's Services Council, and Broward County, Human Service Department, Children's Services Administration Division, Child Care Licensing and Enforcement Division to more effectively work toward these goals.

The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc. now administers the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Education (VPK) program:

- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) implementing legislation was passed in January 2005, which placed responsibility for this program with local school readiness coalitions. Moreover, all school readiness coalitions were renamed "Early Learning Coalitions" to reflect their enhanced roles in meeting the early care and education needs of children and their families.
- *The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.* now falls under the direction and funding of the Office of Early Learning, a division of the Agency for Workforce Innovation.
- *ELC* will organize VPK to give all Broward County parents access to the program which is designed to prepare four-year-olds for kindergarten and build the foundation for their educational success. This new program will be an addition to all of the existing school readiness programs that *ELC* currently oversees.
- Presently, *ELC* has a combined School Readiness and VPK projected budget of \$90 million, which is comprised of federal, state, local, and private funding. Although funding does not cover all of the identified unmet needs in Broward County, *ELC* strives to use all of its resources in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

For more information contact:

Penny Westberry
Executive Director

Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.
(954) 377-2187; pwestberry@elcbroward.org

FLORIDA KINDERGARTEN READINESS SCREENER FLKRS/FAIR-K Overview

Administered to all public and private kindergarten children (3-5 minutes)
Provides a Probability of Reading Success score for each child

How Will FLKRS Data Be Used?

- To inform instruction
- To provide parents with useful information about their child's readiness for kindergarten
- To annually calculate a readiness rate for private and public school providers of the VPK Education Program

PART 1 - Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading - Kindergarten (FAIR-K)

Tasks

- ~ **Letter Naming** (Total of ten times): Children identifies the letter name
Teacher Script: I'm going to show you some letters of the alphabet. Tell me the name of the letters.
- ~ **Phonemic Awareness** (Administered orally. Total of ten items)
Child does blending or onset and rime
Child blends words at the word part and phoneme level
Teacher Script: What would the word be if I say: /l/ /ake/ (lake) // /ock/ (lock) /sh/ /ip/ (ship)
/s/ /ol/ (so) /h/ /all/ (hall) /c/ /oa/ /t/ (coat)

Related VPK Education Standards 2008 - Emergent Literacy

Shows age-appropriate phonological awareness

- a. Child combines words to make a compound word (foot + ball = football)
- b. Child combines syllables into words (sis + ter = sister)
- c. Child can delete a syllable from a word (trumpet – trum = pet)
- d. Child combines onset and rime to form a one-syllable word with pictorial support (c + at = cat)

Tasks

- ~ **Listening Comprehension** (15 minutes): One passage is read out loud by the teacher.
Child answers five listening comprehension questions (Three explicit questions and two implicit questions).
- ~ **Vocabulary (10 minutes)** – Total of 24 possible items

PART 2 - ECHOS (Early Childhood Observation System)

What is the ECHOS?

ECHOS™ is an ongoing, embedded **assessment** or an observational assessment that is a natural part of the ongoing activity in the classroom.

How is the ECHOS administered?

Teachers observe and determine what children know and are able to do by watching them as they work, build, solve problems, and interact with their peers.

VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Website: <https://vpk.fldoe.org/InfoPages/FAQ.aspx>

VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN (VPK) PROVIDER KINDERGARTEN READINESS RATE

PROVIDERS

Providers offering VPK to children in their community may or may not have a rate, depending on what year they began serving children. Readiness rates will be re-calculated each year as a method of measuring the performance of providers in preparing Florida's four year olds for kindergarten.

The State Board of Education sets the minimum readiness rate. A Low Performing Provider is a VPK provider whose readiness rate is at or below the bottom 15 percent of all providers' readiness rates. Providers who fall below the minimum readiness rate will be notified by mail and required to:

- Acknowledge their status
- Complete a provider needs assessment
- Create an improvement plan

Include in their plan a list of actions already taken or proposed to be taken, and a timeline to implement the proposed actions.

VPK PROVIDER READINESS RATE WEBSITE

Rates for providers who served children during the 2008 – 2009 year will be published at:
<https://vpk.fldoe.org/InfoPages/ReportCriteria.aspx>

For additional information, please refer to the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) link under Visitor Links on the PVK Readiness Rate website: <https://vpk.fldoe.org/InfoPages/FAQ.aspx>

PARENTS

The readiness rate is only one tool available to you when deciding upon the best option for your child's early education. Selecting a VPK program is a process that should include observation of the program, interviews with the VPK teacher and/or director, and knowing "what to look for." You should look for happy and active children involved in developmentally appropriate learning activities. Look for hands-on activities including small group, large group, and individual activities. Worksheets, drills, or simply allowing children to play without teacher planning and reflection are not effective methods of preparing the "whole" child for kindergarten.

As your child's first teacher, rest assured that you are taking the first step to kindergarten readiness.

Instructions for Accessing a VPK Provider Profile

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for your interest in having your child participate in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education (VPK) Program.

To locate a VPK Provider: you have the following options:

1. **Computer:** Using a computer, type in the following link:

<http://www.familycentral.org/vpkparentsbc>

This link will take you directly to Family Central, Inc.'s VPK Program Page for Broward County VPK. Scroll down to VPK Provider Lists. Click on the list that you need to view for the time period that your child will be enrolled in VPK.

- a. School Year 2011-2012
- b. Summer 2011
- c. School Year 2010-2011

In addition, you can go to <http://www.elcbroward.org/vpkProviderList.aspx>. This link will take you directly to The Early Learning Coalition of Broward County Inc.'s page for the VPK Provider Lists. Click on the list that you need to view for the time period that your child will be enrolled in VPK.

2. **Community Registration site:** Locate the VPK Provider Binder table at each registration site. At this table you will find separate binders with a copy of the most current list for:
 - a. School Year 2011-2011
 - b. Summer 2011
 - c. School Year 2010-2011
3. **Resource and Referral:** Contact Resource and Referral for VPK Profile listings for specific schools in specific areas of the county in which you are interested. The number to call is 954-724-4609.

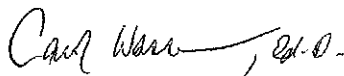
Please be aware that you may submit your Certificate of Eligibility to a provider that is Provisionally Approved; however, that Provider must be Fully Approved PRIOR to the targeted start date of the VPK program in order for that program to begin on the date that it is scheduled.

Please continue to check the VPK Provider list on the websites listed above to ensure that you see that your school has had the "Provisional" coding removed from its name at least two weeks prior to the start date that you were given for the VPK program. If this does not occur, your child's program **can not start** as scheduled.

For additional information, please use the following resources:

- **Resource and Referral - 954-724-4609** - for information regarding a school's hours and days of the VPK program, start and end dates of the program, capacity of number of students, and names of the instructors and their credentials.
- <http://www.myflorida.com/childcare/provider> - to obtain additional profile information (hours, capacity, inspection reports, licensing information, services provided) for a specific VPK provider.
- <https://vpk.fldoe.org> - for information on the VPK Provider Readiness Rates for schools that provided VPK for the 2008-2009 year.

Sincerely,



Carol Wasserman, Ed.D.
Vice President of Voluntary Prekindergarten and Special Projects