

Dear Early Education Partner:

As previously communicated, per [Section 1002.69, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), nonpublic schools may administer the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) to each kindergarten student who was previously enrolled in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK). Initially, the Florida Department of Education (Department) communicated to stakeholders that, for 2017-2018, private schools would be solely responsible for contracting with Renaissance Learning if they wished to administer FLKRS, which is Renaissance's Star Early Literacy assessment.

After further consideration, the Department will offer additional provisions for private schools to administer Star Early Literacy to their kindergartners who were previously enrolled in a VPK program. Private school kindergarten students who attended a state-funded VPK program may be tested on the Star Early Literacy assessment in one of two ways: 1) the private school the student is attending may participate in the FLKRS administration by signing up through Renaissance Learning, completing training, and administering the Star Early Literacy assessment to kindergarten students at the private school, or 2) **private school kindergarten students may be tested at a public school site designated by the local school district.** Per [Section 1002.69, F.S.](#), each school district is required to designate sites to administer FLKRS to private-school-enrolled kindergarten students who were previously enrolled in state-funded VPK programs.

Based on statutory requirements, districts must provide a site for eligible students to test (including computers or devices for students to use for testing), but they will not be responsible for transportation, nor for monitoring test administration for private school students. The private school will be responsible for training test administrators, uploading student information into the Renaissance system in advance of test administration, and staffing test administrations at the district-designated site(s). Renaissance Learning will set up a testing portal and a separate Renaissance testing site for administering the FLKRS assessment to students enrolled in private schools.

One of the requirements of the provision to test private school students is that all such students must have a valid Florida Education Identifier (FLEID) assigned and be registered to take the assessment in advance of testing. This is the same requirement that must be met for all Florida public school kindergartners. It is anticipated that all students entering kindergarten in 2017-2018 and who were enrolled in a VPK program in the 2016-2017 school year will automatically have an FLEID assigned by August 1, 2017.

The Department will pay the costs of assessments for private school students (who were previously enrolled in a VPK program) for the 2017-2018 school year administration. Student-level results for all students tested under this provision will be reported to the Department and to the Office of Early Learning (OEL) for use in calculating VPK readiness rates as required in Section 1002.67, F.S. Private schools would be responsible for costs associated with testing any students who were not enrolled in a VPK program in the 2016-2017 school year, and neither the Department nor OEL will collect any data on these students.

Please complete the survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMCMNNR> to provide more information regarding your school's participation in the FLKRS administration **by the end of the day, Wednesday, July 26, 2017.** In addition, private schools who wish to test any eligible students at a district-designated site should notify their local school district assessment coordinator no later than August 1, 2017. The district will provide additional information on testing sites and available dates.

For private schools who wish to test their students onsite at the private school, and for private school personnel who will monitor private school student testing at a district-designated site, a supplemental webinar will be provided on **Tuesday, July 25, 3pm-4pm (ET)**. The link to register is here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8850080526637176321>. The webinar will be recorded for those who wish to view the webinar but cannot attend on this date.

A number of useful FLKRS resources are available on the Department's FLKRS webpage at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/flkrs>. Information on this webpage will be updated to reflect the Department's decision to offer additional provisions for the 2017-2018 school year for testing private school kindergarten students previously enrolled in a VPK program.

For questions regarding FLKRS, please contact Ed Croft at 850-245-0513 or Ed.Croft@fldoe.org.

Window to apply for Performance Funding Project will stay open until midnight Sunday, July 30!

Providers interested in applying for the 2017-18 Early Learning Performance Funding Project can do so up to midnight Sunday, July 30.



School readiness providers get extra week to apply!

Based on the number of school readiness child care providers that have been applying to be part of this year's [Early Learning Performance Funding Project](#), the online application will remain open for an additional week. If you are a school readiness provider interested in continuous quality improvement that will benefit your students now and benefit you during the year as you earn extra compensation, there is still time to apply.

[Apply now!](#)



Office of Early Learning | 855-890-3226

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