



News Flash

2008-2009 School Year Readiness Rates

Final rates have been published and are available for the general public to view at <https://vpk.fldoe.org>. Under the "Visitor Links" on the left of the page, viewers can click on "Readiness Rates Search." This link will open a new page where the program year, program type (school year or summer), and early learning coalition (Miami-Dade/Monroe) may be selected.

The range for the 2008-2009 program year is 0 - 200. The proposed minimum rate is 138, and will be officially established when members of the State Board of Education meet at the end of the month. Any provider with a score less than 138 will be considered a Low Performing Provider (LPP). You will note there is no entry under the "Low Performing Provider" column on the website for anyone scoring less than 138. That will change after the State Board of Education's meeting. The Coalition will be scheduling appointments with all LPPs, and will be contacted directly once the dates and times have been set.

VPK Summer 2010 Program

If you are interested in providing a summer program, applications are being accepted from Monday, March 1, 2010 to Friday, May 28, 2010. No application will be accepted after that date as the focus will then move to the fall program.

Please remember:

- No summer program may start before May 1, 2010.
- Teachers must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in early childhood (see the checklist for summer at www.vpkhelp.org).
- The maximum number of children per VPK class is 12.
- Any program of six (6) hours or more needs to have at least 30 minutes of rest for children (this is developmentally appropriate - per ELC policy). However, rest-time is not considered part of the instructional time and will not be reimbursed.
- The reimbursement rate per hour for the summer program is \$7.38.

VPK School Year 2010-2011 Program

This year, there will be three (3) application periods.

Period 1: VPK Fall (programs starting on August 23, 2010, the first day of public school)

- Applications are being accepted beginning Monday, March 15, 2010.
- All providers who wish to receive pre-payment must submit their applications by Friday, June 4, 2010 (**Caution:** if your application is incomplete or has expired documents, you may not be part of the pre-payment group).
- Deadline to submit your application for Period 1 is Friday, July 30, 2010. If you miss this deadline, you must wait for the next period to apply.

Period 2: VPK Winter

- Applications will be accepted from Friday, October 1 to Friday, November 19, 2010.
- Programs starting during this period may have to offer more than three (3) hours per day in order to fulfill the 540 required hours.

Period 3: VPK Spring

- Applications will be accepted from Monday, January 3 to Friday, February 18, 2011.
- VPK programs during this period will offer VPK for five (5) or six (6) hours daily.

NOTE: *For all application periods, change of ownership will be processed when presented.*

A Help Desk Week will be available for your convenience from Monday, March 29 to Friday, April 2, 2010. Any provider needing assistance **must** call Priscilla Ferrer at 305-646-7220, ext. 229 to schedule an appointment. **NOTE:** You **must** bring completed applications with you. VPK staff is not authorized to complete applications for providers.

Low Performing Providers (LPP)

Please continue to submit your periodic progress reports. Report 4 was due on February 28, 2010. It is AWI's policy to stop payment for any LPP that has an outstanding report. In addition, providers must also indicate they have met their goals in this report. There should not be a "no" under the "Complete" column.

2008 VPK Standards Trainings for April, May and June

All the trainings below will be held at St. John the Apostle School (School Cafeteria/Auditorium) - 479 E 4th Street, Hialeah. Each class accommodates 40 participants.

2008 VPK Standards - Reference # 703
Thursday April 27, 2010; 5:30 to 8:30 pm

2008 VPK Standards - Reference # 704
Tuesday May 11, 2010; 5:30 to 8:30 pm

2008 VPK Standards - Reference #705
Tuesday June 22, 2010; 2:00 to 5:00 pm (please note time change as it reflects the instructor's summer schedule)

The above trainings are currently listed on the Dept. of Children and Families' (DCF) website. Those wishing to enroll must do so online. Participants will receive 0.3 CEUs free of charge for the class.

* Please note these trainings are for North Dade only. Training dates for South Dade are TBD.

Special instructions

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of class. **Anyone arriving 15 minutes after the beginning of scheduled class-time will not be admitted.** Thank you for your cooperation.

Reminders

Please remember to submit any change to your VPK program as soon as possible to avoid penalty

for non-compliance. If you have had a change in director, teacher, or teacher assistant, you must submit a new Form 10 or 11 with supporting documents and a Notification Form indicating the change being made.

If you are changing or adding substitutes, submit a Notification Form with supporting documents for the individual.

If you are selling your center, the purchaser should submit a complete VPK application to the Coalition while they wait for the sale to finalize and the new license to be issued.



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