

VPK Readiness Rates (preliminary)

We congratulate all providers who participated in the first year of VPK. As you know, children who attended your programs in 2005-2006 were assessed last August and September. The VPK Provider Readiness Rate is the total percentage of children ready for kindergarten. You may see the exact numbers by clicking on the name of your school at <http://vpk.fldoe.org>. Below please find a justification of how the readiness rate scores were determined:

Example: A provider served 22 VPK children. 22 were assessed in ECHOS and found to be "ready." 22 divided by 22 equals 100 percent. 20 were found to be "ready" on one part of the DIBELS, 20 divided by 22 equals 91 percent. 15 were found "ready" on the second part of the DIBELS, 15 divided by 22 equals 68 percent. The total for this provider would be 259 out of a potential score of 300.

Note: With respect to the scores, an asterisk (*) means fewer than 10 children were screened.

Please keep in mind: Providers are assigned a rate only if at least 4 of their children completed 85% or more of the program, and were assessed in each of the three measures.

Although the average score for the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe is 229, a number of providers fell in the lower quartile. While the coalition celebrates the efforts of all providers, we want to assure those whose scores are lower, that we are dedicated to helping them strengthen their program. Additional information will soon be forthcoming.

Very Important

Providers only have 14 days from the May 15th date of posting, to dispute the preliminary VPK Provider Readiness Rate scores. The deadline is May 29, 2007. Please review the Readiness Rate Dispute Process which is also found on the website listed above.

If the name and address of your school is not listed correctly on the Readiness website, please contact Roseline Philippe, VPK Director, at (305) 646-7220 ext. 222.

Providers who facilitate a kindergarten program in their private school, please review the Department of Education's list of registered non-public schools found on the coalition's website, www.elcmdm.org. If your school is not listed, you may register using the following steps:

Private schools must log in with their school code and password on the School Choice website at https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Login/private_login.asp and submit a required survey each year.

If the school does not have a code and password they can request one at https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/privateSchool/request_password.asp. After the request is submitted, the private school will receive an email outlining the annual survey reporting requirements. Private schools must reply to the email stating that they understand the requirement. A password will then be issued via email.

Registered non-public (private) schools may receive FLKRS training for their kindergarten teachers. The ECHOS portion of the FLKRS is administered by the classroom teacher.

VPK 2007-2008

Please submit your applications for the VPK 2007-2008 school year as soon as possible. The deadline is June 30, 2007. The earlier your program is certified, the sooner you can begin to enroll children. Remember, VPK certificates for children cannot be submitted to CDS for payment until providers have been certified by the coalition. A letter and a Certified Provider Certificate will be mailed to providers when their program has been approved.

Providers can now download the new AWI VPK-Form 11 from the coalition's website. Although it says "draft", the form will be accepted. If providers have already submitted the old form, their application will still be processed. All providers who have not yet submitted applications should use this new form. Pay close attention to the "highest degree" box in #11 and #16 and make sure it is marked correctly.

"It's OK to Play in VPK" is a guide provided by the Department of Education to assist parents in understanding the VPK program and what it entails. The coalition is currently developing a series of workshops for VPK directors to assist in facilitating this understanding to parents at the beginning of the school year. Providers who have already picked up the guides at VPK trainings this month should not distribute them until they have attended a workshop. Currently the guides are written only in English, but they will be produced in Spanish and Creole as well.