

VPK Conference Call

Thursday, September 27, 2012

Agenda

VPK POP's FAQ

- What is a POP?
 - A POP is a low performing VPK provider whose readiness rate is at or below the minimum set by the State Board of Education. The readiness rate set for this year's POP's is 70.
- How do I know if I'm a POP?
 - POP's providers were contacted by mail at the end of the last school year by the Department of Education and were required to acknowledge their status online. These providers were then required to fill out an Improvement Plan on the DOE website.
- How can I find out what's on my Improvement Plan?
 - To see your Improvement Plan, go to the VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate website – vpk.fldoe.org
- What if I don't have or can't find my login information?
 - Providers who are unable to locate their login information will need to contact the Office of Early Learning at:

Office of Early Learning
514 Turlington Building
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Phone:

- **Technical Questions:** 1-866-447-1159
 - **Questions about the Provider Acknowledgement:** 1-866-447-1159
 - **Questions about the Improvement Process:** 1-866-357-3239 (1-866-FLREADY)

FAX: (850) 245-5105

Email Us: earlylearning@fldoe.org

- How will my plan be monitored?
 - The Early Learning Coalition is responsible for monitoring the VPK Improvement Plans. Providers on Probation will also fill out progress reports on the VPK Readiness Rate website. These progress reports are due November 2012, February 2013, and May 2013. These progress reports must be address the areas targeted for improvement including the date of completion and provider comments.
 - As a part of your Improvement Plan you chose a Self-Assessment. These assessments were to be future dates for either ERS, CLASS or some other approved assessment such as Self Study for Accreditation. For those who chose ERS or CLASS, the Children's Forum will be conducting these assessments and will be contacting providers to set up dates.

Staff Development

- What kind of **trainings** will be **required** if I am a VPK POP?
 - The only providers that are **required** to attend additional trainings are the **providers who chose the Staff Development Plan** in their Improvement Plan.
 - These classes are **required** for the Director, Lead VPK Teacher, and the VPK Assistant:
 - VPK Standards for 4 Year Olds (Instructor Led)
 - How to Administer the Florida VPK Assessment (Instructor Led)
 - Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors (Online Class)
 - Language & Vocabulary in the VPK Classroom (Online Class)
 - Integrating the Standards: Phonological Awareness (Instructor Led)
 - VPK Assessment Instructional Implications (Instructor Led)

- What kind of **activities** will be **required** if I am a VPK POP?
 - The only providers that are **required** to do additional staff development activities are the providers who chose the Staff Development Plan in their Improvement Plan.
 - These providers are **required** to:
 - Obtain a copy of the Standards for 4 Year Olds for each VPK classroom
 - Use VPK sample lesson plans to assist in planning
 - Hold bi-weekly VPK staff observations
 - Hold monthly VPK staff feedback meetings
 - Hold VPK Assessment Review meetings in the month following the AP1, AP2, & AP3.
- How will I keep track of all of these **required** trainings and activities?
 - The Early Learning Coalition website will have logs and examples for you to download covering all of these requirements. Just go to www.elcofswfl.org

Curriculum

- What if I chose the curriculum option?
 - The curriculum used in a VPK classroom should include active learning experiences that are child-initiated, as well as those planned and initiated by the teacher. The program should implement a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promote learning and development in each of the developmental domains addressed in the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Four-Year Olds (2011) adopted by the State Board of Education.
 - Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:
 - Professional development opportunities for staff regarding curriculum
 - Participation in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Standards training
 - The list of approved curriculum can be found on the DOE website, fldoe.org/earlylearning/curric.asp

VPK ASSESSMENTS FAQ

- What if I haven't received my VPK Assessment Kit?
 - Contact Jane Heuring at the ELC office by email or phone
 - Jane.heuring@elcofswfl.org
 - Office-210-6862
 - Cell-634-7874
- What are the dates for the Assessment Periods?
 - The Assessment Period windows for the administration of the VPK Assessment are as follows: **(*required)**
Assessment Period 1 – the end of the month of September ** [CHANGED TO OCTOBER]
Assessment Period 2 – the end of the month of January *ALL POPS MUST COMPLETE**
Assessment Period 3 – the end of the month of April/May or end of program year
- What if I didn't receive enough kits or do not have enough response booklets?
 - The ELC received a limited number of loaner kits to be used in centers that did not receive kits
 - Please share the kit that you did receive among the classrooms. If you have many VPK classrooms, please contact Jane to get on the loaner list.
 - Additional Response Booklets may be downloaded from the following website:
<http://www.fldoe.org/earlylearning/assessments.asp>
 - Response Booklets may only be copied for the purpose of assessment.
 - Providers may also purchase response booklets and other replacement kit items as needed.
 - **To place an order;**
 - **Call Drummond Press at 1-800-247-5361 or**
Visit – <https://www.nationsprint.com/clients/earlylearning>
- What if I do not have a log in code or have difficulty logging in?
 - **Make Certain to read Page 19 in the VPK Assessment Teacher's Manual prior to contacting DOE directly**
 - **Contact DOE directly at 1-866-447-1159**
 - **EMAIL: vpkassessment@fldoe.org**

- What if a VPK child enters my VPK program after AP 1 is completed and submitted?
 - A provider may choose to administer the assessment for instructional purposes. However, the provider is not required to complete the assessment for children who enter after the assessment period has passed.
- What if my VPK program doesn't start until January or at second Semester?
 - The provider is required to administer AP1 within the first 30 days of VPK.
 - AP3 will be administered at the end of the program year.
- If I am both a School Readiness and VPK provider do I have to administer the DOE assessment as well as the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment?
 - Yes, it is still required by the ELC to administer TS Gold on SR/VPK children.
 - It is also recommended by the ELC to continue utilizing TS Gold assessments because it is a valid and reliable instrument that allows a teacher to compare a child's skills and behaviors to research-based indicators of learning and development. As well as provides concrete methods of documenting children's work and learning throughout the year.

For Training questions please contact Kristi Biffar at 210-6877 or Donna Schehr at 210-6876.