

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
October 20, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.201, Child Enrollment Procedures for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1001.02(1), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Education, Division of Early Learning administers federal and state child care funds and partners with 30 local early learning coalitions to deliver comprehensive early learning services statewide which include the Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program.

The rule and its incorporated forms include the VPK child registration procedures, eligibility requirements and the requirements that a parent must provide certification of their understanding of the VPK program requirements. The rule text also establishes the Early Learning Coalitions responsibilities for child enrollment.

The rule and incorporated forms were amended based on recent legislative changes to section 1002.53, F.S., following the passage of [House Bill 419](#) (Section 34). The rule text was amended to include the adoption of Form DEL-VPK 01A (November 2021) and add new supporting documents that may be used to show proof of Florida residency to meet VPK program eligibility requirements. Rule text was also amended to include language that directs Early Learning Coalitions to provide parents registering their child for the VPK program with an early learning provider performance profile as described in s. 1002.93(3), F.S.

Incorporated rule forms were amended as follows:

- Form DEL-VPK 01 (November 2021) VPK Child Application
 - o Updated language regarding the submission of child's social security number in Section 1, more specifically, reference to the Office of Early Learning revised to Division of Early Learning and reference to s. 1002.69, F.S. revised to s. 1002.68, F.S.
 - o Form name and date were revised
- Form DEL-VPK 01A (November 2021) VPK Child Application
 - o New form needed to reflect new parent acknowledgement language and statutory requirement in s. 1002.53(6)(d), F.S.
 - o Updated language regarding the submission of child's social security number, specifically
 - Reference to Office of Early Learning now revised to the Division of Early Learning
 - Reference to statewide kindergarten screening revised to coordinated screening and progress monitoring program
 - Reference to s 1002.69, F.S. revised to s. 1002.68 F.S.

- Section IV. Certification
 - 3rd bullet revised for new parent acknowledgement
- Form DEL-VPK 07 (November 2021) Voluntary Prekindergarten Handbook
 - Document/form was reformatted with Office of Early Learning (OEL) logos replaced with new Division of Early Learning (DEL) logo and references to the OEL were revised to the DEL throughout.
 - Language was added regarding quality instruction to align with amended language in s. 1002.67, F.S.
 - Additional supporting documents accepted as proof of Florida residency were added to align with proposed rule revisions
 - Language referencing the repealed Gardiner Scholarship program (House Bill 7045) was removed.

There are no changes other than an update to the form name and date for Form DEL- VPK 02 (November 2021) VPK Child Certificate of Eligibility.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed rule 6M-8.201, F.A.C.; Form DEL-VPK 01, VPK Child Application; Form DEL-VPK 01A, VPK Child Application; Form DEL-VPK 02, VPK Child Certificate of Eligibility; Form DEL-VPK 07, Voluntary Prekindergarten Handbook

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