

6A-6.0981 Provider Approval and Renewal for Virtual Instruction Program.

(1) No change.

(2)(a) Application Form. Form VSP-02, Virtual Instruction Program Application for Provider Approval (<https://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-15732>), for becoming an approved provider for the Virtual Instruction Program, will be used for those virtual education providers applying for approved status from the State Board of Education. Form VSP-02 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule to become effective August ~~2024~~2023.

(b) Application Form. Form VSP-02R, Virtual Instruction Program Application for Provider Renewal (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-15733>), for renewing an approved provider for the Virtual Instruction Program, will be used for those virtual education providers applying for renewal status from the State Board of Education. Form VSP-02R is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule to become effective August ~~2024~~2023. Copies of forms VSP-02 and VSP-02R may be obtained by contacting the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

(3) Applications. The applications to become an approved provider or for renewal will be available at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/virtual-edu/provider-resources> beginning September 1 of each year for the following school year and must be accessed and submitted electronically. The deadline for filing the application is September 30.

(a) Pursuant to Section 1002.45(2)(a)~~4,5~~, F.S., the applicant must possess prior successful experience offering online courses to elementary, middle and high school students as demonstrated by quantified student learning gains in each subject area and grade level provided for consideration as an instruction program option.

1. through 2. No change.

(b) In accordance with Section 1002.45(2)(a)~~5,6~~, F.S., the applicant must be accredited by at least one of the following K-12 regional accrediting agencies, their successors or assigns: Cognia, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Elementary School and Secondary Schools, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Northwest Accreditation Commission, or Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

(c) Pursuant to Section 1002.45(2)(a)~~6,7~~, F.S., the curriculum plan must include evidence:

1. through 4. No change:

(d) The applicant will disclose on a prominent place on its website the disclosure information required under Section 1002.45(2)(a) ~~7-8~~, F.S. Average student-teacher ratios are to be calculated for core and elective courses for the following grade-level bands: grades K-3, grades 4-8, and grades 9-12. The total number of students assigned to full-time teachers must be provided. Student completion rate calculations are to include all students who are enrolled for more than fourteen (14) calendar days. Student performance accountability outcomes are to include student assessment results for all students and by the following subgroups: major racial and ethnic groups, economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency. “Major racial and ethnic groups” shall include those groups reported for accountability purposes under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in any state or, if no such prior reporting is available, shall include, at a minimum: American Indian, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic, and White.

(4) through (8) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1001.02(1), (2)(n), 1002.45(10) FS. Law Implemented 1002.45 FS. History—New 11-26-08, Amended 10-21-09, 3-20-11, 12-20-11, 1-23-13, 1-1-14, 7-28-15, 10-30-16, 8-21-18, 9-21-21, 9-20-22, 8-22-23,