



Florida **VPK**

VPK Registration

Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, or VPK, is a free educational program that prepares 4-year-olds for success in kindergarten and beyond. Children must live in Florida and be 4 on or before September 1 of the school year they enroll. Parents whose children are born between Feb. 2 and Sept. 1 of the calendar year may postpone enrolling their 4-year-old until the following year when their child is 5.

Registration opens January 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 school year.

To register your child for VPK, simply visit the Family Portal at: <https://familyservices.floridaearlylearning.com> where you will create an account and complete the application process.

Parents may also contact the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County for additional information and assistance at www.elcbroward.org.

How to register for VPK:



Email - Username

Do you have a valid email address? If yes, please go to next step. If no, please set up a free Gmail account at google.com/gmail

How do I qualify?

- Parents/guardians must be a Florida resident
- Children who turn 4 years old on or before September 1st of the current school year

Required Documents

- Proof of child's age** – birth certificate OR current immunization record
- Proof of Residence**– Driver's license OR current utility bill OR current signed lease
- *The address MUST match the application.*

OEL Family Portal

- Select "OEL Family Portal" on the ELC home page:
- New Users**
Register for an account
- Returning Users**
Enter your username & password
- Complete the application & upload documents

Verify Application

- Submit Application
- You will receive an email notifying you of your application status within 24-48 hours during peak season (Jan.-Mar.), and within 20 days during non-peak season (April-Dec.)
- *Emails come from a "Do Not Reply" address & may go to your Spam Folder*

Stay Connected:

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Family Portal FAQ's

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten

1 What are the requirements needed to complete a VPK Application?

- The child must be four years old on or before September 1st of the current program year.
 - The child must reside in the state of Florida.
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2 When is my child eligible for the VPK program?

Your child will be eligible for VPK when they turn four years old on or before September 1st of the current program year. However, effective July 1, 2016, a new law allows parents whose children are born between February 2nd and September 1st of the calendar year to postpone enrolling their four-year-old until the following year when their child is five years old.

3 I don't think my child is ready for kindergarten, can they receive an extra year of VPK?

Situations like this can go one of two ways. If the child has not attended the VPK program yet and their date of birth falls between February 2nd and September 1st, then they can qualify for a VPK Postponement. If the child has attended the VPK program, then a VPK Reenrollment must be submitted along with required documentation to determine if the child is eligible to be reenrolled in the subsequent program year.

4 Can I use my VPK Certificate during the school year and then for the summer as well?

No. You can use your child's VPK certificate for EITHER the school-year or the summer, but not for both.

5 What are the steps involved in applying for a School District VPK program vs. a private early learning center?

When applying for a School District VPK Program or a private early learning center, the parent must first apply for the VPK Certificate of Eligibility through the Office of Early Learning Family Portal. Once they obtain the certificate, the parent has the choice of enrolling their child at a School District VPK program or a private early learning center.

To apply for a private early learning center, the parent simply brings their VPK Certificate to an approved VPK provider.

To apply for a School District VPK program, the parent must apply online through the Head Start/Early Intervention Department website (<https://www.browardschools.com/headstart-vpk>).