



# Florida VPK



Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten Program (VPK) was implemented with the goal of providing all of Florida's four-year-olds with access to free, quality prekindergarten programs.

## Program Description

- All VPK instruction is standards-based and developmentally appropriate.
- School-year VPK provides 540 hours of instruction, 3 hours per day for 180 days.
- The Summer VPK program provides 300 hours of instruction, 10 hours per day for 30 days.
- All classrooms are taught by certified early childhood teachers.
- Summer VPK classrooms are staffed with 2 certified teachers for 24 students.

School-year PEEPS/VPK classrooms are staffed with one certified teacher and two paraprofessionals (teacher assistants) for 8 PEEPS (Pre-K ESE) students and 9 VPK students. For those who wish to stay for a full school day, we offer an Extended Learning Time.

## Eligible Students

The program has no income requirements or restrictions. The program is available to children who reside in Florida and will be eligible for kindergarten the following fall (5 on or before September 1). Child may not have previously attended a VPK Program during the school year.

## Apply for a VPK Certificate of Eligibility

Your first step is to apply online and obtain a VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE). This will be your "ticket" to VPK. Once you have this, you can bring the certificate to the VPK site of your choice and complete the registration process.

To apply online, parents will need the following:

- An active email address that you check frequently
- A digital copy of: proof of your child's date of birth and proof of your Florida residency
- Access to a printer to print out your VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

To begin the VPK online application, visit the website listed below:

**<http://www.elchc.org> (Click on Families/choose VPK for Families.)**

**Contact Alison Cristello for more info about VPK & PEEPS at  
Maniscalco K-8 (813) 949-0337 x 237**

**VPK Questions? VPK Hotline:**

**813-272-4840**

