

## Instructional Hours for the VPK Program

---

### PURPOSE

To define what constitutes instructional hours for the VPK program.

### REFERENCES:

Sections [1002.55\(2\)](#), [1002.61\(2\)](#), [1002.63\(2\)](#), and [1002.67\(2\)\(b\)](#), Florida Statutes (F.S.)  
[Rule 6M-8.410 Florida Administrative Code \(F.A.C.\)](#)

### BACKGROUND:

Florida statutes require a school-year VPK program to comprise 540 instructional hours (ss. [1002.55\(2\)](#) and [1002.63\(2\)](#), F.S.) and a summer VPK program to comprise 300 instructional hours (s. [1002.61\(2\)](#), F.S.).

### As used in the VPK program, the term “instructional hour” means:

#### 1. **Planned learning activities or experiences that implement curricula.**

Sixty consecutive or nonconsecutive minutes of instructional time in planned activities or experiences that implements a private provider’s or public school’s curricula for the VPK Program.

- In accordance with [s. 1002.67\(2\)\(b\), F.S.](#), these planned activities or experiences must be developmentally appropriate and must:
  - a. Promote the child’s development of early literacy skills.
  - b. Enhance the age-appropriate progress of children in attaining the performance standards adopted by the Department of Education for one or more of the following domains of development (see [Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards 4 Years Old to Kindergarten \(2017\)](#)):
    1. Physical development;
    2. Approaches to learning;
    3. Social and emotional development;
    4. Language and Literacy;
    5. Mathematical Thinking
    6. Scientific Inquiry
    7. Social Studies
    8. Creative Expression Through the Arts
  - c. Prepare children to be ready for kindergarten.

#### 2. **Instructor is present and supervising.**

A credentialed instructor or substitute instructor, as defined in s. [1002.55\(3\)\(c\), F.S.](#) and [Rule 6M-8.410 F.A.C.](#), must be present throughout the instructional time.

**3. Instructor is engaged in activities or experiences, supervising children.**

The credentialed or substitute instructor must be actively engaged in the activities or experiences by teaching, guiding, interacting, supporting, or actively observing the activities or experiences.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Whether through monitoring or by report, if an early learning coalition or school district, (whichever is applicable), finds non-compliance with VPK program requirements, results shall be included in appropriate monitoring reports. Corrective action and/or revocation of provider eligibility shall be clearly documented and issued in accordance with statute and rule. The intended action must be resolved timely.

**HISTORY**

Issued July 1, 2016. Reissued July 1, 2017. Reissued July 1, 2018. Reissued July 1, 2019.

Please direct questions and comments to Office of Early Learning at 850-717-8500 or [VPKquestions@oel.myflorida.com](mailto:VPKquestions@oel.myflorida.com)