



Online Training for Preschool Educators



August 2020

Online training opportunities for directors, teachers and assistants are offered online by the Florida Office of Early Learning (OEL) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF). Registration for online courses are available on the DCF website: <https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/studentsite/admin/login.jsf>. The fee for each online course is \$10.00, paid at registration. Course completion and Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are viewed from the participant's transcript.



Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors (VPK) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This course is recommended for all VPK instructors and directors. It is required for all VPK instructors with a Child Development Associate (CDA) or Florida Child Care Professional Certificate (FCCPC), consistent with section 1002.55, (3)(c)2, Florida Statutes. The goal of the 5-hour course is to provide participants with background information on emergent literacy and demonstrate instructional practices that can be used in VPK classrooms.



English Language Learners in the VPK Classroom (VELL) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This course is for VPK instructors, directors and preschool staff to use as they develop culturally sensitive learning environments for children and build relationships with families who are English language learners. Although this course is designed with English language learners in mind, there are numerous best practices that can be used with all young children.



Language and Vocabulary in the VPK Classroom (LVPK) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This course is appropriate for VPK instructors, assistants and directors and provides instructional strategies for increasing language and vocabulary with young children. There are videos of VPK instructors implementing the strategies with children as well as activities and resources to support teachers as they begin to use the language and vocabulary strategies in their own classrooms.



VPK Director Credential Course (DVPK) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

All directors of private VPK programs who have not earned a DCF Director Credential as of December 31, 2006, are required to complete this course as one of the components of the VPK Director Credential. Providers who were issued a DCF Director Credential prior to December 31, 2006 are exempt from this requirement but are encouraged to participate in the training. The importance of maintaining a balance between management and leadership in a VPK setting and how to establish a high quality VPK education program by creating and sustaining an effective learning environment is emphasized. Participants gain knowledge of effective research-based prekindergarten practices, understanding the importance of integrating the Florida Standards into instructional practices and exploring how an ongoing assessment directs instructional practices.



Mathematical Thinking for Early Learners (MATH)

5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This online course is appropriate for administrative staff, directors and teachers of 3-, 4- and 5-year old children. Course participants will gain early math knowledge and practical information about how to structure the classroom environment and plan activities to integrate math concepts and skills throughout the learning day. The course uses the six mathematical thinking areas outlined in the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards: 4 Years Old To Kindergarten (2017) and the 5 evidence-based recommendations for meeting the challenges of teaching math to young children presented in the What Works Clearinghouse™ practice guide for Teaching Math to Young Children as the foundation for the content presented throughout the course.

Picture slideshows and videos filmed in Florida’s early learning classrooms as well as interactive activities will provide examples for how to support children in learning new math skills and using the “language of math.” The pictures and videos presented will also demonstrate best practices for instruction of the six Mathematical Thinking areas in the Standards: 4 Years Old to Kindergarten. Training on the Florida Standards in the Preschool Classrooms: 3 Years Old to Kindergarten is a recommended prerequisite for this course.



Implementing the Florida Standards in Preschool Classrooms: 3 Years Old to Kindergarten (VFSP)

5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This training is based on the newly revised Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards and provides an overview of the standards used in preschool classrooms serving children ages 3 years old to Kindergarten entry. This training meets the lead VPK instructor training requirements and incorporates the standards approved for use in VPK programs. Examples of developmentally appropriate instructional strategies for preschool age children are provided throughout the training along with information about purposeful planning, reflective practice and qualities of an effective educator. Through an interactive presentation, video clips and hands-on activities, participants will become familiar with the Standards and understand the elements of quality instruction in preschool classrooms.



Integrating the Standards: Phonological Awareness (VIPA)

2 hours; 0.2 CEUs

This training is appropriate for preschool teachers, assistants and directors, and it is open to all. Participants have an opportunity to create a developmentally appropriate activity related to a benchmark in phonological awareness to be implemented in the classroom. Emphasis is on planning, implementation, teacher self-reflection and documentation of the activity.



How to Administer the Florida VPK Assessment (HTVA)

3 hours; 0.3 CEUs

This training is appropriate for VPK directors, administrators, and teachers who will administer the Florida VPK Assessment. Participants will learn the purpose of the VPK Assessment and how to administer, record and score each of the assessment measures through hands on activities and engaging video clips.



VPK Assessment Instructional Implications (VAII)

2 hours; 0.2 CEUs

This training is appropriate for VPK directors, administrators and teachers who have administered the VPK Assessment. Participants will review the VPK Assessment Online Reporting System score types, reports and instructional resources for planning instruction based on VPK Assessment data.



Working to Create Positive Learning Environments: Preventive Strategies (VSE1)

4 hours; 0.4 CEUs

This interactive course is designed to provide preschool educators with specific strategies for creating a positive learning environment. Participants will be presented with information that will support them in providing responsive and reciprocal care-giving, instruction in creating safe, secure and supportive environments, and developing classroom structures that promote pro-social skills.



Developing the Socially and Emotionally Competent Child (VSE2)

4 hours; 0.4 CEUs

This interactive course, intended for preschool educators, highlights the importance of supporting children's developing social and emotional competence. An emphasis is placed on strategies intended to promote the skills necessary for young children to effectively navigate their social world. Participants will be presented with specific approaches for teaching emotional literacy and friendship skills, as well as strategies to support preschoolers as they learn to manage anger and disappointment.



Implementing the Approaches to Learning Domain in Early Childhood Classrooms

5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This five hour online training is open to all early childhood instructors, assistants and directors. Participants will explore this unique and critical domain of development for ages birth to kindergarten, and discover how children cope with new environments, interactions, and discoveries. Additionally, detailed descriptions of children's attitudes and dispositions toward learning will be provided. This training also explains how to integrate Approaches to Learning with the other domains in the 2017 Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards.



Implementing the Scientific Inquiry Domain in Early Childhood Classrooms

5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This five hour online training is open to all early childhood instructors, assistants and directors. Participants will explore each component of the Scientific Inquiry Domain for ages birth to kindergarten, reflect on how children investigate the world around them, and learn how to support and encourage children in the discovery process. This training also explains how to integrate Scientific Inquiry with the other domains in the 2017 Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards.



Implementing the Social Studies Domain in Early Childhood Classrooms

5 hours; 0.5 CEUs

This five hour online training is open to all early childhood instructors, assistants, and directors. Participants will explore each component of the Social Studies Domain for ages birth to kindergarten, reflect on ways children make sense of their social and physical environments, and learn how to foster the development of integrity and inclusive values. This training also explains how to integrate Social Studies with the other domains in the 2017 Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards.