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 implement 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**

Please direct questions and comments to Office of Early Learning at 850-717-8500 or VPKquestions@oel.myflorida.com