

Training Requirements for Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program Instructors

In accordance with Section 1002.55, F.S., and Section 1002.63, F.S., all VPK instructors must complete three 5-hour (15 hours) emergent literacy courses to meet lead VPK instructor credential requirements. In addition, all VPK instructors must complete one emergent literacy course every five years after initially completing the three emergent literacy training courses in order to maintain VPK instructor eligibility.

Effective July 1, 2022, all VPK instructors must complete a course on the performance standards adopted for use in VPK programs in accordance with Section 1002.55, F.S., and Section 1002.63, F.S.

The following emergent literacy courses can be completed to meet the 15-hour emergent literacy training requirement for VPK instructors.

Division of Early Learning Literacy Courses Registration: https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/studentsite/admin/signin	Course Description	Cost
1. <i>Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors</i> (online VPK21) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This course will provide participants with background information on emergent literacy and demonstrate instructional practices that can be used in early learning classrooms with 4- to 5-year-olds, supporting success in kindergarten and beyond.	\$10.00
2. <i>Language and Vocabulary in the VPK Classroom</i> (online LVPK21) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This course will provide participants with instructional strategies for increasing language and vocabulary with young children, a critical component of children's development. Activities and resources are provided to support instructors as they begin to use the language and vocabulary strategies in their own classrooms.	\$10.00
3. <i>Phonological Awareness Development for Preschoolers</i> (online VIPA21 ; in-person and virtual instructor-led PAP21) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This training is appropriate for preschool educators and directors, and is open to all. Participants will have an opportunity to participate in hands-on activities supporting developmentally appropriate instruction in phonological awareness as well as explore the phonological awareness stages of development.	Online-\$10.00

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4. <i>Dialogic Reading: Language and Vocabulary Development for Preschoolers</i> (in-person and virtual instructor-led DRP) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This virtual instructor-led course is appropriate for administrative staff, directors and teachers of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children. Participants will learn Dialogic Reading as a strategy used with books to promote vocabulary and oral language skills. In Dialogic Reading, the book becomes a shared visual and verbal context for the instructor to teach their children new words.	Free
5. <i>Book Embedded Vocabulary Instruction: Language and Vocabulary Development for Preschoolers</i> (in-person and virtual instructor-led BEP) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This virtual instructor-led course is appropriate for administrative staff, directors and teachers of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children. Participants will learn how to implement the Book Embedded Vocabulary Instructional strategy to facilitate vocabulary teaching and learning.	Free
6. <i>Scaffolding and Think, Show, Tell, Talk: Language and Vocabulary Development for Preschoolers</i> (in-person and virtual instructor-led STSTTP) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This virtual instructor-led course is appropriate for administrative staff, directors and teachers of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children. Participants will learn about Language Scaffolding and Think, Show, Tell, Talk instructional strategies used to promote language, vocabulary and oral language skills.	Free
7. <i>Building a Strong Foundation for Emergent Literacy</i> (in-person and virtual instructor-led BSFEL ; online VEIL21) 5 hours; 0.5 CEUs	This course provides foundational content focused on emergent literacy skills and instruction. This course is most appropriate for directors, new VPK instructors and/or preschool instructors who are new to early childhood education.	Online-\$10.00
8. <i>Language and Vocabulary Training Project: Targeted Strand-Coach</i> (virtual instructor-led) 28 hours; 2.8 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participants (literacy coach/lead teacher) will receive explicit instruction on the four language and vocabulary strategies while attending professional learning sessions totaling 28 hours. The 28 hours of learning will be provided in seven 4-hour sessions (five sessions with both the coach and teacher(s) and two sessions for the coach only).	Free

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9. <i>Language and Vocabulary Training Project: Targeted Strand-Teacher</i> (virtual instructor-led) 20 hours; 2.0 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participants will receive explicit instruction on the four language and vocabulary strategies while attending professional learning sessions totaling 20 hours. The 20 hours of learning will be provided in five 4-hour sessions. Teacher participants, along with the literacy coach participants, will partner and plan for the implementation of the instructional strategies as a team. This professional learning opportunity is specifically geared towards literacy pre-kindergarten or kindergarten teachers.	Free
10. <i>Language and Vocabulary Training Project: Universal Strand-Coach</i> (virtual instructor-led) 20 hours; 2.0 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participants will receive explicit instruction on the four language and vocabulary strategies while attending professional learning sessions totaling 20 hours. The 20 hours of learning will be provided in five 4-hour sessions. This professional learning opportunity is specifically geared towards literacy leaders at the school district level.	Free
11. <i>Preschool Language and Vocabulary Professional Development 2022 (Coach)</i> (virtual instructor-led) 28 hours; 2.8 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participating coaches will attend a series training webinars throughout the 2021-2022 school year. This training is focused on early literacy skills and strategies necessary to provide a high-quality instructional environment for young learners. Coaches will support teachers as they implement the learned strategies and skills presented throughout the trainings.	Free
12. <i>Preschool Language and Vocabulary Professional Development 2022 (Teacher)</i> (virtual instructor-led) 25 hours; 2.5 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participating teachers will attend a series of five trainings throughout the 2021-2022 school year. This training is focused on early literacy skills and strategies necessary to provide a high-quality instructional environment for young learners. Teachers will have opportunities to learn, discuss and practice the strategies and skills presented throughout the trainings.	Free

Flamingo Early Learning (University of Florida Lastinger Center) Literacy Courses Registration: Contact the local early learning coalition	Description	Cost
13. <i>Preschool Language Development</i> (online) 20 hours; 2.0 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participants will explore language development in young children and learn evidence-based strategies for helping children develop language skills and extend their vocabulary knowledge. These strategies are job-embedded and will need to be implemented with the preschool children (3-5 year olds) in the participant's setting.	Free
14. <i>The Building Blocks of Preschool Literacy</i> (online) 20 hours; 2.0 CEUs Meets full 15-hour requirement	This course will review the research and provide participants with ways to support children in classrooms as they continue on their journey to becoming successful readers and writers. These strategies are job-embedded and will need to be implemented with preschoolers in the participant's program.	Free
Reading Endorsement Registration: Contact the local school district	Course Description	Cost
15. <i>Competency 1</i> (varied delivery methods) 60 hours Meets full 15-hour requirement	Participants will develop substantive understanding of six components of reading as a process: comprehension, oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency and vocabulary.	Varies
Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Student Education (BESE) Registration: https://fldpe.org/#/category/31	Course Description	Cost
16. <i>Structured Literacy Through a Multi-Sensory Approach</i> (online) 20 hours Meets full 15-hour requirement	This course provides the opportunity for teachers to develop a deeper knowledge of how to build foundational reading skills. Tools and resources are provided for use in multi-sensory structured literacy instruction to close the achievement gap between struggling readers. The course will describe each component of structured literacy with examples of evidence based multi-sensory instruction in each unit that build on one another systematically.	Free
17.		
18.		

The following course can be completed to meet the VPK Performance Standards training requirement for VPK instructors.

Division of Early Learning Course Registration link: https://training01-dcf.myflorida.com/studentsite/admin/signin	Course Description	Cost
1. <i>Implementing the Florida Standards in Preschool Classrooms: 3 Years Old to Kindergarten</i> (online VFSP ; in-person SPC3TK) 3 hours; 0.3 CEUs	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.	Online- \$10.00

Instructors can view their child care training transcript online at: <https://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/child-care/>.