

Family Portal FAQ's

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten

1

What are the requirements needed to complete a VPK Application?

- The child must be four years old on or before September 1st of the current program year.
- The child must reside in the state of Florida.

2

When is my child eligible for the VPK program?

Your child will be eligible for VPK when they turn four years old on or before September 1st of the current program year. However, effective July 1, 2016, a new law allows parents whose children are born between February 2nd and September 1st of the calendar year to postpone enrolling their four-year-old until the following year when their child is five years old.

3

I don't think my child is ready for kindergarten, can they receive an extra year of VPK?

Situations like this can go one of two ways. If the child has not attended the VPK program yet and their date of birth falls between February 2nd and September 1st, then they can qualify for a VPK Postponement. If the child has attended the VPK program, then a VPK Reenrollment must be submitted along with required documentation to determine if the child is eligible to be reenrolled in the subsequent program year.

4

Can I use my VPK Certificate during the school year and then for the summer as well?

No. You can use your child's VPK certificate for EITHER the school-year or the summer, but not for both.

5

What are the steps involved in applying for a School District VPK program vs. a private early learning center?

When applying for a School District VPK Program or a private early learning center, the parent must first apply for the VPK Certificate of Eligibility through the Office of Early Learning Family Portal. Once they obtain the certificate, the parent has the choice of enrolling their child at a School District VPK program or a private early learning center.

To apply for a private early learning center, the parent simply brings their VPK Certificate to an approved VPK provider.

To apply for a School District VPK program, the parent must apply online through the Head Start/Early Intervention Department website (<https://www.browardschools.com/headstart-vpk>).