



Florida **VPK**

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: What is the
Voluntary
Pre-Kindergarten
Program?

A: Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) is a free educational program that helps your child be ready for kindergarten. VPK helps build a solid foundation for school using educational materials appropriate for various stages in your child's development.

A: To be eligible for VPK, children must live in Florida and be 4 years old on or before September 1 of the current school year. If their fourth birthday falls February 2 through September 1 in a calendar year, parents can postpone enrolling their child in VPK that year and wait until the following year when their child is 5.

Q: Who is eligible
for the program?

A:

- The state of Florida offers two types of VPK Programs.
 - The school year VPK program is 540 instructional hours and the Summer VPK program is 300 instructional hours.
- Your child can **ONLY** participate in one of the VPK programs.

Q: What types of VPK Programs are there?

Q: Is VPK an all-day program?

A: You will need to visit the Early Learning Coalition of NW Florida's website <https://elcnwf.org/> - from homescreen - apply for VPK - upload required documents, complete the application, and submit. A Family Support Specialist will review your application.

A: The school-year VPK is a half-day program, usually, 3 to 4 hours per day. The Summer VPK program is a full day. You should speak with your selected VPK provider about schedules.

Q: How do I apply for VPK?

A: You will need to visit the Early Learning Coalition of NW Florida's website <https://elcnwf.org/> - from homescreen -apply for VPK - upload required documents, complete the application, and submit. A Family Support Specialist will review your application.

Q: My child is going to VPK with the school district. I'm told I need a certificate of eligibility. How do I get one?

A: You will need - proof of Florida residency, and proof of your child's age.

Q: What documents do I need for VPK?

A: No. Florida law specifies that families are responsible for transportation to and from the VPK program

Q: Is transportation provided?

A: School districts provide VPK classes along with private childcare centers.

Q: Where are VPK classes held?