

Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Specialized Instructional Services Education Program

Overview

Florida’s Voluntary Prekindergarten Specialized Instructional Services (VPK SIS) education program is an additional option for parents of 4-year-old children with disabilities that is available outside the traditional VPK classroom setting. If your child has a current individual educational plan (IEP) from your local school district that calls for specialized instructional services, you can choose VPK SIS instead of traditional VPK school year or summer programs.



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VPK for 4-year olds with unique abilities

Program

VPK specialized instructional services are offered in individual or small group settings with a certified or licensed professional trained to provide specific instruction. Students enrolled in VPK SIS may use services identified on their IEP such as

- Applied behavior analysis.
- Speech language pathology.
- Occupational therapy.
- Physical therapy.
- Listening and spoken language instruction.
- Other specialized instructional services consistent with your child’s IEP.

Parents can choose one or more services and select from providers the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has approved. Funding for each student is the same as for traditional VPK, but based on the rates these specialists charge for their services. So students in VPK SIS may receive fewer hours of service than students in traditional VPK.

Eligibility

If your child is eligible for VPK, you must first enroll them through your local early learning coalition office. They must meet three basic eligibility requirements for VPK SIS.

- Your child must live in Florida.
- Your child must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 of the current year.
- Your child must have a current IEP from your local school district.

Providers

FDOE has approved the following professionals to be VPK SIS providers:

- Individuals certified or licensed for applied behavior analysis services.
- Licensed speech-language pathologists.
- Licensed occupational therapists.
- Licensed physical therapists.
- Licensed clinical social workers.
- Licensed psychologists.
- Other licensed professionals who have applied to and been approved by FDOE.

The local early learning coalition pays VPK SIS providers directly for services delivered to children in the program based on the schedule of services form. Parents and providers work together to complete required forms.

Parent Resources

- [Early Learning Coalitions Map](#)
- [More about VPK SIS](#)