



— EPISCOPAL —

# Children's Services

BELIEVE. ACHIEVE. SOAR.

## 1ST QUARTER PROVIDER MEETING

# MEETING AGENDA

Family Services Updates

Reimbursement Services Updates

Contract Updates

School Readiness Education

Grant

Questions





Shanda Ellis

# FAMILY SERVICES DEPT. UPDATES



# VPK End of Year Reports

- The Division of Early Learning (DEL) has created a report to show any VPK children that have been paid for more than 540 hours. This report will be processed as program calendars end.
- If your program has any VPK children that are over 540 hours a Family Services team member will be reaching out to you letting you know of any hours that will be taken back from payment.

Reasons why a child may be over hours:

VPK reenrollment from a program that provided different hours. Such as going from a 3 hour a day class to a 5 hour a day class.

VPK reenrollment into a program with a different start date than yours. Such as reenrolling from a program that started in August, but your program may not have started until October.



# VPK Child Applications

- VPK Child Applications for the 2023-2024 VPK Program Year opened in the Family Portal on January 1, 2023.
- Family Services Specialists are working in the VPK Child App submitted queue daily to ensure a quick turn around for both you and the family applying for VPK.

## ■ VPK Age Eligibility

- Children born between February 2, 2018, and September 1, 2018, may postpone their VPK participation until the 2023-2024 School Year Program (540 hours) or the 24 Summer Program (300 hours).
- If a child was born between September 2, 2018, and September 1, 2019, they are eligible to participate in either the 2023 -2024 School Year Program (540 hours) or the 2024 Summer program (300 hours).
- Children born between February 2, 2018, and September 1, 2018, may postpone their VPK participation until the 2023-2024 School Year Program (540 hours) or the 24 Summer Program (300 hours).



# VPK Enrollments for 23/24 Program Year

\*Providers must have a certified DEL-VPK 20 Statewide VPK Provider Contract.

\*Please wait until you have 4 signed VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE) Forms for an active classroom before you submit for enrollment approval.

\*If you have a child that is enrolled and then drops from your program before your calendar start date, please click the orange button “Child Never Attended”.

\*If a child drops your program after your calendar start date, then you will want to terminate the enrollment and choose from the drop-down list as to why the child is being terminated.

\*If you have 4 children enrolled, but do not have 4 children start on your calendar start date, you will need to change your calendar start date to start the first day you have four children attend. It is very important that you make this change quickly to ensure your calendar stays at 540 hours.



# VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

- Please remember when you enroll a child into your VPK program you **must** complete Section II of the COE with the family. Please also complete for reenrollment COEs as well.
- Once completed, please upload the COE into the document library folder named VPK Enrollment Certificates. You may do this by classroom or by individual certificates. These signed documents should be kept on file for 5 years.

II. ADMISSION BY PROVIDER OR SCHOOL <i>(Jointly Prepared by Provider or School AND Parent or Guardian)</i>			
11. Name of provider or school		12. Telephone	
13. Address of VPK site		14. VPK class	15. Date child will begin attendance
The provider or school certifies that it admits the child (item 8) for enrollment in the VPK program and agrees to deliver the program for the child.		I certify that I choose the provider or school (item 11) to deliver the VPK program for my child and direct that program funds be paid to the provider or school for my child.	
16. Signature of authorized representative for provider or school	17. Date	18. Parent signature	19. Date



# School Readiness Wait List

- Please encourage families to apply for the wait list at: <https://familyservices.floridaearlylearning.com/>
  - ***Please note:*** When applying for School Readiness Services, the family will be required to upload one supporting document to verify eligibility for the program. A list of acceptable proof of eligibility documents will be available in the application process. This list will vary based on the information entered in the application.
  - *If you have questions regarding a specific family and their situation as to whether they would qualify to be added to the waitlist, please encourage them to reach out to our Program Support Coordinator Kenya Register at [kenya.register@ecs4kids.org](mailto:kenya.register@ecs4kids.org) or 904-726-1500 ext. 2246.*
  
- We will continue weekly funding notices as long as enrollment trends stay the same.





# We are enrolling through the waitlist for ALL ELIGIBLE AGE GROUPS!

- Clients apply for the wait list through the family services portal. Once the application is received the family will receive notification within 10 days from the date that they submitted as to whether they qualify or not. They must apply for services in the county they reside in.
- To qualify for services a parent must be working or going to school for at least 20 hours per week or a two- parent family must have both parents working for a total of 40 hours per week. Eligibility is based on the federal poverty level which considers total family income and family size.
- Once a family qualifies, they will be placed on our waiting list. **At this time, funding notices are being sent out (via email) from the waiting list weekly.** However, we cannot promise that this will continue to be the situation. The sooner families apply, the sooner they may receive services.
- Normally, when funding notices are sent out, they are sent to Priority 3 or non-school age children and siblings under the age of 9. However, for now, as we clear the waitlist each week, we are including School Aged children through the age of twelve (12) in the available funding notices going out!
- Please note, a funding notice does not automatically qualify families for SR funding. The funding notice generated will explain all documents needed to be uploaded with thirty (30) days to fully complete the application process. Full eligibility cannot be determined until all documentation is received, reviewed and verified meeting income and family size qualifications.



# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking ahead and preparing to attend community events in our service county areas in the Fall.

If you know of any community events in your area during August through December such as Fall Festivals, School District Festivals, Community Block Parties, etc., please contact us and let us know.

We just need the event name and contact information. We would love to see you out in your community!

Please reach out to

[Jacki.Chimino@ecs4kids.org](mailto:Jacki.Chimino@ecs4kids.org) with events in your area!



# Family Services Staffing Changes

- Michele Goytia is no longer with ECS and we wish her the best in her next adventure. Jacki Chimino has been promoted to our CCR&R Coordinator. Jacki is transitioning from her Family Services Specialist position at our Clay County One Stop Office to her new full-time CCR&R Coordinator position.
- Riley Vinson is a new Family Services Specialist at our Clay County One Stop Office and is in full-swing training on all aspects of the FSS tasks including SR and VPK eligibility.
- We are currently in the process of interviewing for Jacki's Family Services Specialist position and hope to fill you in on our new FSS soon.



# One Stop Office Staff & Central Staff



Family Services Specialists	Family Services Specialists
<p><b>Baker</b> – Eryss Meguia – 904-259-4255  <a href="mailto:Eryss.Meguia@ecs4kids.org">Eryss.Meguia@ecs4kids.org</a></p>	<p><b>St Johns</b> – April Florida – 904-770-2565 ext. 105  <a href="mailto:April.florida@ecs4kids.org">April.florida@ecs4kids.org</a></p>
<p><b>Bradford</b> – Vickie Hancock - 904-964-1543  <a href="mailto:vickie.Hancock@ecs4kids.org">vickie.Hancock@ecs4kids.org</a></p>	<p><b>St Johns</b> – Martha Castaneda – 904-770-2565 ext. 101  <a href="mailto:Martha.Castaneda@ecs4kids.org">Martha.Castaneda@ecs4kids.org</a></p>
<p><b>Nassau</b> – Holly Poole – 904-432-0009 ext. 2626  <a href="mailto:Holly.Poole@ecs4kids.org">Holly.Poole@ecs4kids.org</a></p>	<p><b>St Johns</b> – Sharron Green – 904-770-2565 ext. 100  <a href="mailto:Sharron.green@ecs4kids.org">Sharron.green@ecs4kids.org</a> (Family Services Asst.)</p>
<p><b>Clay</b> – Leatrice Ahmadu – 904-213-3939 ext. 2039  <a href="mailto:Leatrice.Ahmadu@ecs4kids.org">Leatrice.Ahmadu@ecs4kids.org</a></p>	<p><b>Putnam</b> – Christina Jackson – 386-385-5450 ext. 2284  <a href="mailto:Christina.Jackson@ecs4kids.org">Christina.Jackson@ecs4kids.org</a></p>
<p><b>Clay</b> – Riley Vinson– 904-213-3939 ext. 2081  <a href="mailto:Riley.Vinson@ecs4kids.org">Riley.Vinson@ecs4kids.org</a></p>	<p><b>Central</b> – Florine Reeves – 904-726-1500 ext. 2273  <a href="mailto:Florine.reeves@ecs4kids.org">Florine.reeves@ecs4kids.org</a></p>
<p><b>Clay</b> – TBD</p>	<p><b>Central</b> – Shalanda Hall – 904-726-1500 ext. 2263  <a href="mailto:Shalanda.hall@ecs4kids.org">Shalanda.hall@ecs4kids.org</a></p>

# School Readiness Management Team

- Emily Taylor – 386-385-3450 ext. 2881 ([emily.taylor@ecs4kids.org](mailto:emily.taylor@ecs4kids.org)) Family Services Coordinator to Clay, Putnam and St Johns staff.
- Mary Catherine Griffin – 904-726-1500 ext. 2290 ([mary.griffin@ecs4kids.org](mailto:mary.griffin@ecs4kids.org)) Family Services Coordinator to Nassau, Baker, Bradford and Central staff.
- Jacki Chimino – 904-213-3939 ext. 2080 ([jacki.chimino@ecs4kids.org](mailto:jacki.chimino@ecs4kids.org)) Child Care Resource and Referral Coordinator, all counties.
- Kenya Register – 904-726-1500 ext. 2246 ([kenya.register@ecs4kids.org](mailto:kenya.register@ecs4kids.org)) Program Support Coordinator, all counties.
- Shanda Ellis – 904-726-1500 ext. 2253 ([shanda.ellis@ecs4kids.org](mailto:shanda.ellis@ecs4kids.org)) Manager of Family Services.





QUESTIONS?



# PROVIDER SERVICES UPDATES

Shivaughn Williams



# REIMBURSEMENT SERVICES UPDATES





# Attendance

Submit SR/VPK Attendance by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month

SR Payment is disbursed the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month

VPK Payment is disbursed the 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> of every month

If you have any questions about attendance, please reach out to the Reimbursement Department (904) 726-1500 ext. 7050.

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
*	CR	CR	CR	CR	CR	*
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
*	X FT	X FT	X FT	X FT	X FT	*
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
*	X FT	X FT	X FT	X FT	X FT	*
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
*	A	A	A	N	N	*
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
*	X FT	X FT				



# School Year Parent Fees

School Age Parent Fee will change from Full time to Part time for all counties as of: **8/10/2023**

- **Baker**
- **Bradford**
- **Clay**
- **Nassau**
- **Putnam**
- **St. Johns**



Children that turn Five Years Old on or before September 1st and that are beginning Kindergarten will be updated to School Age children and have their schedules/parent fees updated to reflect the change.



# 23-24 VPK Rates

## 2023-2024 School Year Allocations (Effective 7/1/2023)

County Name	Rate based on FTE	Program hours	Hourly rate
Baker	\$2,797.20	540	\$5.18
Bradford	\$2,764.80	540	\$5.12
Clay	\$2,867.40	540	\$5.31
Nassau	\$2,899.80	540	\$5.37
Putnam	\$2,759.40	540	\$5.11
St Johns	\$2,932.20	540	\$5.43

## 2024 Summer Allocations (Effective 7/01/2023)

County Name	Rate based on FTE	Program hours	Hourly rate
Baker	\$2,388.00	300	\$7.96
Bradford	\$2,361.00	300	\$7.87
Clay	\$2,445.00	300	\$8.15
Nassau	\$2,475.00	300	\$8.25
Putnam	\$2,358.00	300	\$7.86
St Johns	\$2,505.00	300	\$8.35



# Reimbursement Department Staff



If you run into any issues or questions regarding Reimbursement, SR or VPK, please reach out to the **Reimbursement Department** at **(904) 726-1500 ext. 7050**.

- Sidney Kostecki, Reimbursement Coordinator, ext. 2210
- Christy Bramley, Reimbursement Specialist, ext. 2257
- Courtney Cariveau, Reimbursement Specialist, ext. 2293
- Darius Cannon, Reimbursement Specialist, ext. 2239



# Reimbursement Department Staff



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- Courtney Cariveau, Reimbursement Specialist, ext. 2293
- Darius Cannon, Reimbursement Specialist, ext. 2239



Questions?





# CONTRACT DEPARTMENT



# 2023-24 VPK Program Participation Deadlines



All VPK Provider application should be submitted at least 14 calendar days before your anticipated start date to allow sufficient time for review and processing.

*For example: If your anticipated start date is August 10, 2023, you should submit your application by July 25, 2023 at the latest.*

If your VPK application and contract is not certified 14 calendar days before your anticipated start date, then your start date may need to be changed.



## **2023-24 VPK Program Advance Payment Deadlines**

*\*\*\*Advanced payment deadlines are subject to change per DEL policy\*\*\**

If you have chosen to receive the VPK advance payment, the deadlines are as follows:

The deadline to receive the **August** advance payment has already passed.

To receive the **September** advanced payment:

1. Should be submitted no later than July 14, 2023, **AND**
2. At least 4 approved certificates of eligibilities entered the provider portal VPK enrollment tab and submitted for approval **AND**
3. Your completed original child certificates of eligibility received in our central office no later than July 31, 2023.

To receive the **October** advanced payment:

1. Should be submitted no later than August 15, 2023, **AND**
2. At least 4 approved certificates of eligibilities entered the provider portal VPK enrollment tab and submitted for approval **AND**
3. Your completed original child certificates of eligibility received in our central office no later than August 30, 2023.





We want to say Thank you!

With your help we were able to reach 100% completion for 23-24 provider profiles and 23-24 SR Contracts were certified before June 30, 2023.



# Contract Department Update

Roushawn (Shawn) Saunders has been promoted to Contract Specialist Lead.

- She will now also assist with the FAST assessment requirement for VPK providers and ensure completion of PM1; PM2; PM3 assessments for both school year and summer VPK providers.



# Contract Department Staff



If you have any questions regarding Profiles or Contracts, SR or VPK, please reach out to the **Contract Department at (904) 726-1500 ext. 7054.**

- Sarah March, Contract Coordinator, ext. 2206
- Roushawn Saunders, Contract Specialist Lead, ext. 2241
- Michele Yingst, Contract Specialist, ext.2167
- Cameron Cline, Contract Specialist, ext. 2297
- Melisha Farmer, Contract Monitor, ext. 2243



Questions?





Amanda Griffis

# SCHOOL READINESS EDUCATION UPDATES



# Provider Information Site

<https://www.ecs4kids.org/programs/provider-services/>

Book mark this link and visit often!



BUILD A WORLD CLASS WORKFORCE  
GRANT INFORMATION

*click here!*

A photograph of a woman with dark hair and three young children (two girls and one boy) gathered around a tablet computer, looking at the screen together. The woman is pointing at the screen, and the children are looking on with interest. The photo is framed by purple vertical bars on the left and right sides.

Newsletters

Emails

Provider Meetings

DEL Memos

Portal Guidance

CLASS

# ASQ/ASQ-SE Reminder

- If the parent chooses for the provider to complete the ASQ and/or the ASQ-SE, coalition is required to ensure provider completes the screenings.
  - *If you completed a screening for a child and they are still showing as 'incomplete' in the Portal, it is likely due to the fact that the SE has not been completed. Click on that child's screening again and complete the SE.*
- Failure to complete ASQs as required by Rule, will result in a Non-Compliance notice for your site.
  - *Every attempt to contact providers regarding incomplete/late screenings is case noted.*





# ASQ/ASQ-SE Reminder (Contd)

- *Please DO NOT back date ASQs. Use the current date you are actually completing the ASQs. Using a past date will result in the incorrect ASQ age being generated and the screening may need to be cancelled and re-entered.*
- *Make sure you are using Google Chrome browser.*



# Inclusion Services

- When requesting services from the Inclusion Specialists, please keep the following things in mind:
  - *Inclusion assistance should be a first stop, not a last resort. As soon as you recognize you may need assistance, contact your inclusion specialist immediately.*
  - *We have 2 specialists who cover 6 different counties, so schedules may not be able to accommodate “emergency calls”.*
  - *Inclusion services cannot diagnose a child, nor inform the provider whether the site should disenroll a child/family.*
  - *Make sure you’ve already communicated any concerns and issues with the family before contacting the Inclusion Specialist, so the family understands the process and knows what to expect.*



# CLASS Assessments

- Due to the high volume of CLASS assessments required and the addition of previously Biannual status assessment, we cannot guarantee that assessments will occur for each site during the same time frame as previously scheduled.
- Keep in mind that assessors are allowed to pause for up to 10 minutes between CLASS cycles, and it is up to the assessor to decide how much time is needed between cycles. Therefore, you may see slight differences in how long an assessor is in the classroom for assessment(s). Also remember that cycles for the different age ranges vary by CLASS tool as well.
- All times of the day including meal time, outdoor time, all activity times are allowable times to assess except for unstructured outdoor times for Pre-K and nap times. Outdoor time for Infants and Toddlers can be assessed. Pre-K can be assessed if there is a structured activity planned. Let your assessor know ahead of time whether outside time activities are planned.



# CLASS Assessment Reminders:

- Continue your normal schedule during assessments. Children respond best to their normal routine and structure.
- Dual Coding- as we build assessor capacity, train, and set measures to ensure CLASS reliability, please note that 2 assessors may be present for your assessment(s).



# CLASS Assessment Reminders (continued):

- Assessors are coached by supervisors to give no feedback regarding assessment scores after each assessment. Providers are required to request, in writing, for their individual classroom notes. Information on this is provided in the email you'll receive notifying you of your composite score(s).
- If you open a VPK room after your CLASS assessments have taken place, the new class will be observed, and your VPK assessment composite score will be recalculated.
- If your composite score for SR and/or VPK are below 4.0, provider has the option to pay \$425 per classroom re-assessed to try to qualify for contracting eligibility. If you open a new classroom before your reassessment, you will be required to pay for all required classrooms to be re-assessed (this is in state Rule).



# VPK CLASS Assessments

- Per State Rule, ALL VPK classrooms will receive a CLASS assessment. All classroom scores will be calculated into one Composite VPK score for each VPK program. A score of 4.0 is required to continue to contract for future VPK programs.
- Make sure your VPK teachers know what to expect! Ensure they have access to MyTeachstone accounts and/or have taken a PreK CLASS training.
- Lead teacher listed in the Portal must be present for assessment to occur. Keep your portal profile updated!
- We set up a tentative assessment schedule by month but as we've stated before please know that your assessment month assignment is \*tentative\* based on many factors. Your assessment may be moved up earlier in order for our agency to ensure all assessments are completed as required by DEL.



# SR CLASS Training/Resources

- It is **extremely** important for teachers to receive **on-going** CLASS training. Please do not assume that your center will receive a score similar to your last year's score if your teachers have not continued to train on CLASS.
  - *CLASS strategies and scoring are very specific. Directors should have a training plan in place for seasoned teachers as well as new teachers*
- Be sure to take advantage of the FREE MyTeachstone accounts we have been advertising. This resource has a library of information, courses, and videos on every area of CLASS in each of the 3 age ranges (Infant, Toddler, PreK).



# MyTeachstone Accounts

- If you would like to sign up yourself and your teachers for an account you can reach out to your assigned Education Specialist, [Amanda.Griffis@ecs4kids.org](mailto:Amanda.Griffis@ecs4kids.org) for SR and [Ashley.Rich@ecs4kids.org](mailto:Ashley.Rich@ecs4kids.org) for VPK Only sites.
- Send a list of first and last names and an individual email address.





# Exemptions for SR CLASS

- **Exempt providers-** can remain exempt **unless** site receives qualifying DCF violations and/or SR enrollment exceeds the 20% SR enrollment threshold. If you
- NOTE: Biannual statuses expired on June 30<sup>th</sup> and will no longer be implemented per State Rule. Starting July 1, 2023-ALL previously biannual programs will receive CLASS assessments regardless of scores received this year.
- No exemptions for VPK classrooms.



# Other CLASS Learning Opportunities



- Check the ECS training calendar:  
<https://ecs4kids.gosignmeup.com/Public/Course/Browse>
  
- Check the Early Learning Florida Training Calendar  
<https://www.earlylearningflorida.com/catalog>
  
- Read the ECS Helping Hands Monthly Newsletter
  - *Includes CLASS strategies in the activities*
  
- Read the Book of the Month activities/ Watch the BOM videos
  - *Includes CLASS strategies in the activities*
  - *Posted to “ECS In The Know” Provider Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECSInTheKnow>*
  
- Visit the Teachstone website for products to use in the classroom  
<https://teachstone.com/>
  
- Reminder: For providers who received the CLASS strategy cards and CLASS dictionary- be intentional about using these materials in the classroom.
  
- Directors- ensure lesson plans are being created with CLASS strategies in mind, complete informal CLASS strategy observations; create training plans for each staff member that include formal and informal CLASS training

Questions?



# GRANT & MISC. UPDATES

Brittney Spangler





# AVAILABLE & UPCOMING GRANTS

- CDA Scholarships
- Curriculum & Curriculum Supports



# CDA Scholarships Available

- CDA Scholarships for Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam & St. Johns Counties: Scholarships may be available for CDA applicants through the TEACH Scholarship Program. For additional information, please contact:
- Danesha Davis at (904) 726-1500 ext. 2299, [danisha.davis@ecs4kids.org](mailto:danisha.davis@ecs4kids.org)
- We offer an online course that does not require an approved TEACH application.
- Once all requirements have been completed, ECS will scholarship the \$425 application fee to the National CDA Council.
- Scholarships will be available as long as funding is available.
- For additional Frequently Asked questions, please visit <https://www.ecs4kids.org/programs/regional-training-institute/cda-2-0/> or contact Denesha Davis if your question is not listed.

# Upcoming Curriculum & Curriculum Support Grants

- While we do not have any additional information at this time, we understand that ARPA funds will be made available for Curriculum & Curriculum Supports in the upcoming months in the form of provider grants.
- As soon as additional information is made available, email notifications will be sent & the grant information will be listed on the Provider Services page of the ECS website. <https://www.ecs4kids.org/programs/provider-services/>

# ARPA GRANTS

Round 1, Installments 1, 2, & 3  
&

Round 2, (1 Installment), & FINAL Payment





# ARPA Grant Deadline Summary

(Through Provider Portal)



## ARPA Round 1

- Initial Application Deadline June 30, 2022
- Round 1, **Second** Installment Survey
  - Submission Deadline – December 15, 2022
  - Approval Deadline– December 30,2022
  - Payment Deadline – January 31, 2023
- Round 1, **Third** Installment Survey
  - Submission Deadline –April 5, 2023
  - Approval Deadline –April 19,2023
  - Payment Deadline – May 17, 2023

## ARPA Round 2

- Initial Submission Deadline - February 28, 2023
  - Approval Deadline– April 5, 2023
  - Payment Deadline – May 5, 2023
  - Total award will be paid in one payment
- Round 2, **FINAL** Payment
  - Released in EFSM – April 27, 2023
  - Submission Deadline – May 11, 2023
  - Approval Deadline – May 25, 2023
  - ELCs made aware of FINAL payment amount – June 15, 2023
  - Payment Deadline – June 30, 2023

# ARPA PAYMENTS

All ARPA Round 1, Installments 1, 2, & 3

&

ARPA Round 2, Installment 1 & FINAL Payment

Have all been paid!



# Provider Reporting ARPA Round 1 and 2 Expenditures



- Providers are required to continue reporting expenditures until all ARPA Child Care Stabilization Subgrant – Round 1 and 2 funds are spent. This will be in the Provider Portal.
- **All funds must be spent no later than September 30, 2023.**
- Final funds utilization reports are due **October 31, 2023.**
- **Providers failing to submit expenditure surveys may be required to repay any unspent funds.**
- The ELC of North Florida/Episcopal Children's Services are required to make and document efforts to obtain close-out expenditure spending when a provider ceases operations with an outstanding balance.

## Guidance Available:

- Sample Budget Tracking
- Child Care Stabilization Spending Documentation Guide
- Child Care Stabilization Subgrant Provider FAQs – 10/28/2022
- Email [Contracts@ecs4kids.org](mailto:Contracts@ecs4kids.org) and ask for the documents listed above for assistance with allowable costs and how to track funds spent.



# Workforce Grant

- All training requirements and deadlines for the Workforce Grant have now passed.
- One additional payment is set to be paid out this week and then all Workforce Grant payments will have been made.
- If you have any questions or concerns regarding your workforce grant status, please email [workforcegrants@ecs4kids.org](mailto:workforcegrants@ecs4kids.org) and list your name, your program name, and any additional information that is needed to answer your question.



# FREE TRAINING KITS

\*Available by Appointment ONLY

Kits are first come first serve & we cannot guarantee holds. To schedule an appointment to pick up kits please reach out to [workforcegrants@ecs4kids.org](mailto:workforcegrants@ecs4kids.org).

## Remaining Training Kits

- Infant/ Toddler Social Emotional
- Infant/Toddler Cognitive
- Introduction to the CLASS Tool (Infant & Toddler)
- CLASS Feedback Strategies



# FLORENDA'S ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THINKING (FAST)

USING STAR EARLY LITERACY



# What is FAST?

## Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy

The Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring Program is the statewide, standardized program known as Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy implemented in all VPK programs as required by s. 1002.68, F.S., that is used to assess student achievement of the performance standards established in s. 1002.67(1)(a), F.S., in early literacy and mathematics.

VPK Programs (school-year and summer) will begin implementation of the FAST using Star Early Literacy beginning in the 2022-2023 VPK Program Year.



# FAST Implementation

- VPK Programs are required to administer the assessment **three times** within its program and must be administered by a qualified test administrator. (PM1; PM2; PM3)
- The assessment shall be administered individually or in a small group with no more than five students.
- The assessment shall be administered on a touchscreen device. Student headphones shall be used when administration occurs in group sizes of two to five students.
- Testing accommodations shall be made in accordance with a student's current Individual Educational Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan issued by the local school district.
- VPK Programs are **required** to provide a student's performance results from the assessment to the student's parents **within seven calendar days** after the administration of the assessment. VPK Programs **must provide the Star Parent Report**. The Star Parent Report provides a printable informational letter for parents or guardians and is available in **English** and **Spanish**. This is currently NOT being collected by ECS but may be requested at a later date for monitoring purposes. The link to running instructions can be found here: <https://help2.renaissance.com/reports/25027>.





# Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) using Star Early Literacy (Cont.)

## Rostering

VPK Program Administrators will need to ensure that their **Provider Portal is up to date** prior to the VPK Program year beginning and throughout the year. The Division of Early Learning (DEL) will send nightly files to Renaissance generated from the DEL Provider Portal.

The files will include students enrolled in VPK and information about classrooms and instructors. This allows the Renaissance system to setup the site for VPK Programs to administer the Star Early Literacy Assessment. This also includes adding any new or reenrollment children throughout the program.

**Any terminated children will also be removed from the Renaissance site as enrollments are linked to the Provider Portal. Please have all necessary reports pulled prior to terminating a child.**

All program changes must be made in the Provider Portal and may take up to 48 hours to reflect in the Renaissance site. Changes cannot be made in the Renaissance site.



# FAST Progress Monitoring (PM) Periods

## School Year Programs

- **Progress Monitoring 1 (PM1)**: Is the **first thirty (30) instructional days** of the VPK class schedule beginning with the first VPK instructional day.
- **Progress Monitoring 2 (PM2)**: Is the period of time in a VPK class schedule where **at least 40% of the instructional hours have been completed and no more than 60% of the instructional hours** have been completed. **PM2 IS A REQUIREMENT FOR VPK**
- **Progress Monitoring 3 (PM3)**: Is the **last thirty (30) instructional days** of the VPK class schedule ending on the last VPK instructional day.

## Summer Programs

- **Progress Monitoring 1 (PM1)**: Is the **first ten (10) instructional days** of the VPK class schedule beginning with the first VPK instructional day.
- **Progress Monitoring 2 (PM2)**: Is the period of time in a VPK class schedule where **at least 40% of the instructional hours have been completed and no more than 60% of the instructional hours** have been completed. **PM2 IS A REQUIREMENT FOR VPK**
- **Progress Monitoring 3 (PM3)**: Is the **last ten (10) instructional days** of the VPK class schedule ending on the last VPK instructional day.

- **Please remember that your testing window dates may change if you have any calendar changes.**
- If you accidentally test outside of your classroom's testing windows, you will need to retest the children during your testing windows in order to be in compliance with the VPK contract.
- If you test a child more than once in your testing window, DEL will use the first test administered for that Progress Monitoring period.
- Periodically we are updating our website with current Progress Monitoring Dates for each ELC of North Florida VPK Provider at the following link: <https://www.ecs4kids.org/programs/vpk/providers/>



# FAST/Renaissance Resources & Support

\***New Link to DEL Website:** <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/>

\***New DEL FAST Page:** <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/providers/fast-star-earlit.shtml>

VPK Program Administrators should be familiar with the VPK FAST website link above as information and resources are updated frequently. Several resources have been added & this will your best resource for up-to-date FAST information.

## **Renaissance System Support**

Users who need Renaissance System support should contact the Renaissance Place Help Desk and Technical Assistance Team at 1-800-338-4204 or by completing this [form for a Renaissance representative](#).

## **Policy Questions?**

Contact the Division of Early Learning with questions related to FAST Star Early Literacy implementation requirements. Select which best describes who you are: [VPK Provider](#) or [VPK Parent](#) and your information and questions will be submitted to the Division of Early Learning.





DID YOU  
KNOW?

# ECS Website - Provider Services Page

<https://www.ecs4kids.org/programs/provider-services/>

- At the link above, we are doing our best to save any communication we are sharing with child care programs all in one spot.
- Included on this page is archives of newsletters, email blasts, Provider Meeting slides and recordings, DEL Memos, the latest CLASS news, and more!
- At the bottom of the page, we also have a link for you to have the most up to date ECS staff Contact List for Providers, so you will always have our up to date contact information.
- If you have suggestions for anything to be added to this page, please email me at [brittney.spangler@ecs4kids.org](mailto:brittney.spangler@ecs4kids.org). Thank you!





QUESTIONS?



# SR Provider Survey

- You will receive an email with the link to a survey. Please take the time to fill this out. We use your feedback to guide future Provider Meetings 😊  
THANKS!!!



# More Questions

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