

Florida's **FREE** <u>Voluntary Prekindergarten</u> (<u>VPK</u>) <u>program</u> prepares early learners for kindergarten and builds the foundation for their future educational success.

To be eligible, a child must:

- Reside in Florida and
- Be four (4) years old on or before Sept 1

Parents can choose from private child care centers or public schools and from school-year or summer programs. Parents of 4- or 5-year-olds with special needs have an option outside the classroom setting; this option is VPK Specialized Instructional Services (SIS).

Next Steps:

- 1) Collect the needed documents.
 - Gather one document that shows your child's age and one document that shows your current address.
- 2) Apply for VPK online through Florida's Early Learning Family Portal. Submit a VPK Application for your 4 or 5 Year Old child. Remember to upload the document that shows your child's age and the document that shows your current address. Be sure to type your child's name, your name, and your current address (no P.O. boxes) on the VPK application exactly as this information appears on the documents you have collected.
- 3) Get your child's VPK certificate.

Once you receive an email that the ELC approved your child's VPK application, log onto Florida's Early Learning Family Portal to print a copy of your child's VPK certificate. Then take that certificate to your chosen VPK provider to register your child. Make sure the Parent/Guardian signs on the appropriate line.