Florida Department of Education
Office of Early Learning

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program

STAFF DEVELOPMENT IN-SERVICE COMPONENT INFORMATION

COMPONENT TITLE: *Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors*

Please Note: This course offering is available in both an online and hard copy manual/DVD format. It is available at www.myflorida.com/childcare.

IDENTIFIER NUMBER:

MAXIMUM POINTS: Five initial points upon proof of successful completion of the Emergent Literacy Course and five follow-up points – total of ten in-service points

DESCRIPTION: This training is designed to complement initial training on the new VPK Education Standards. This component is designed to provide participants with background information on emergent literacy skills and provided exemplary instructional practices that may be replicated in the VPK classroom.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE: To provide opportunities for participants to examine the five components of emergent literacy, while assessing effective instructional practices as reflected in a Florida VPK demonstration classroom.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this training, participants will

- Understand the purpose, focus and rationale for the new VPK Education Standards and benchmarks for the areas of language and communication and emergent literacy
- Analyze critical, age-appropriate instructional and environmental strategies that will prepare all children to succeed in kindergarten
- Replicate key instructional strategies, daily schedule components, and environmental factors that should be considered in planning for the teaching of the new VPK Education Standards and benchmarks
- Examine the research behind each of the language and emergent literacy standards and assess what can be done to promote children's learning in these areas
- Understand the key components of emergent literacy including: language and communication, emergent reading, emergent writing and environment
- Develop a lesson plan which reflects the instructional practices presented in the Emergent Literacy Course
- Reflect and self-evaluate current classroom practices in comparison to the established VPK Education Standards for teaching emergent literacy

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DELIVERY, FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES:

To earn in-service credits, participants must successfully complete a minimum of five hours of on-line or manual-based instruction (with accompanying DVD) and an additional five hours of follow-up activities which may include any of the following:

- Development of three lesson plans to enhance literacy development in 4-year-olds enrolled in a VPK program
- Creation of a learning center which models instructional strategies presented in the *Emergent Literacy for VPK Instructors* course
- Observations conducted of an exemplary VPK classroom and provide a two page summary of potential program changes to be utilized in the participant's classroom

AVAILABLE DELIVERY METHODS:

- Electronic, Interactive
- Electronic, Non-Interactive
- Workshop
- Study Group/Learning Community
- Action Research

EVALUATION OF PARTICIPANTS:

- Demonstrate mastery of at least 80% of the targeted objectives on a post-assessment.

FOLLOW-UP OPTIONS:

- Reflection on implementation
- Coaching and mentoring to ensure appropriate application of knowledge and skills
- Access to web-based resources
- Document implementation of the specific VPK Education Standards
- Provide Student Impact Data resulting from implementation of the specific VPK Education Standards in which professional development was provided
- Network to share best practices and updates
- Compile assessment data (may include charts, graphs of student progress)
- Modify practices based on data
- Other performance assessment

EVALUATION METHODS:

- Participant product related to training (may include lesson plans, written reflection/summary, samples of student work or learning center)
- Action research related to training content
- Structured mentoring/coaching (may include direct observation, conferencing, oral reflection and/or lesson demonstration)
- Study group participants
- Electronic, Interactive and Non-Interactive

PROCESS TO OBTAIN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' (DCF'S) TRAINING TRANSCRIPT

In order to view or obtain a DCF Training Transcript, for DCF-approved trainings or online Department of Education (DOE) approved trainings, the following information must be available:

- Last name of the individual
- Social security number or student identification of the individual

STEPS TO OBTAIN TRANSCRIPT:

- Enter the following DCF website: www.myflorida.com/childcare
- Click on Training Information
- Click on View My Transcript
- Enter the individual's last name and the social security number (without the dashes) or student identification number and click on submit. If the individual does not have a social security number or student identification number, please call the Child Care Training Information Center at 1-888-352-2842
- Verify the individual's demographic information. To proceed, click on the Continue button at the bottom of the page
- Review of the training transcript should reflect all trainings completed by the individual. The transcript provides the following information:
  - DCF Training Course in-service or completion credit earned, including number of hours, certificate number (if applicable), date completed and hours completed
  - Number of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) awarded for training classes if criteria is met
  - Child Care Credentials earned, including credential number, date awarded, and date of renewal (if applicable)
    - Access to see courses currently scheduled for
    - Access to view employment advertisements, if individual has a credential eligible for VPK