



**School Year VPK Instructor Credential Options**

Individuals seeking employment as a VPK instructor for the school year VPK program must meet one of the following credentials. The employer (VPK provider or prospective provider) must provide required documentation to the local early learning coalition in accordance with [Rule 6M-8.300, F.A.C.](#),

| Options         | Florida Statutes   | Certificate or Degree   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 1               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(3)(c)1.a</a>   | Child Development Associate (CDA) credential issued by the Council for Professional Recognition <b>and</b> Completion of the VPK training requirements outlined in <a href="#">Rule 6M-8.615, F.A.C.</a> ,  |
| 2               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(3)(c)1.b</a>   | Florida Childcare Professional Certificate (FCCPC) Birth through Five Credential <b>and</b> Completion of the VPK training requirements outlined in <a href="#">Rule 6M-8.615, F.A.C.</a> ,   |
| 3               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(b)</a>  | A bachelor's or higher degree in elementary education if the prekindergarten instructor has been certified to teach children any age from birth through 6 <sup>th</sup> grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• certificate need not to be current</li> <li>• certificate need not be from Florida, but may not be suspended or revoked</li> </ul> |
| 4               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(c)</a>  | An associate's or higher degree in child development  |
| 5               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(d)</a>  | An associates or higher degree in an unrelated field <b>and</b> at least 6 credit hours in early childhood education or child development <b>and</b> at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or providing child care services for children any age from birth through 8 years of age;  |
| 6               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(a)</a>  | A bachelor's or higher degree in prekindergarten or primary education   |
| 7               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(a)</a>  | A bachelor's or higher degree in preschool education  |
| 8               | <a href="#">s.1002.55(4)(a)</a>  | A bachelor's or higher degree in family and consumer science  |
| Options (cont.) | <a href="#">s.1002.55 (4)(e)</a> , Florida Statutes and <a href="#">Rule 6A-4.01411, F.A.C.</a>  |   |
| 9               | An associate's or higher degree in early childhood education   |   |
| 10              | A bachelor's or higher degree in family and child sciences and at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or providing child care services for children any age from birth through 8 years of age; |   |
| 11              | A bachelor's degree or higher in exceptional student education or special education  |   |
| 12              | A bachelor's degree or higher in mental disabilities, mentally handicapped or mentally impaired  |   |
| 13              | A bachelor's degree or higher in specific learning disabilities  |   |
| 14              | A bachelor's degree or higher in physically impaired   |   |
| 15              | A bachelor's degree or higher in varying exceptionalities  |   |
| 16              | A bachelor's degree or higher in emotional disabilities  |   |
| 17              | A bachelor's degree or higher in deaf or hard of hearing or hearing impaired   |   |
| 18              | A bachelor's degree or higher in speech-language pathology, speech-language impaired or speech correction  |   |
| Options (cont.) | <a href="#">s. 1002.55 (4)(e)</a> , Florida Statutes and <a href="#">Rule 6A-4.01411, F.A.C.</a><br>A valid license issued by the <a href="#">Florida Department of Health</a> to serve as a:        |   |
| 19              | Physical therapist   |   |
| 20              | Speech language pathologist  |   |

**School Year VPK Instructor Credential Options (Continued)**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Options (cont.) | Florida Statutes: <a href="#">s. 1002.55 (4)(e)</a> and <a href="#">Rule 6A-4.01411, F.A.C.</a><br>A valid Temporary or Professional Florida Educator's Certificate in the area of: |
| 21              | Prekindergarten/primary education (age three through grade three);  |
| 22              | Preschool education (birth through age four);   |
| 23              | Elementary education (grades 1-6) or (Kindergarten through grade 6);  |
| 24              | Early childhood education (nursery through kindergarten);   |
| 25              | Primary education (Kindergarten through grade 3);   |
| 26              | Prekindergarten/primary education (age three through grade three);  |
| 27              | Preschool education (birth through age four);   |
| 28              | Exceptional student education (grades K-12);  |
| 29              | Deaf or hard of hearing or hearing impaired (grades K-12);  |
| 30              | Speech-language impaired or speech-language impaired associate (grades K-12);   |
| 31              | Prekindergarten disabilities (endorsement);   |
| 32              | Physically impaired (grades K-12);  |
| 33              | Mentally handicapped (grades K-12);   |
| 34              | Specific learning disabilities (grades K-12);   |
| 35              | Varying exceptionalities (grades K-12); or,   |
| 36              | Emotionally handicapped (grades K-12).  |

CDA-Child Development Associate  
 DCF-Department of Children and Families  
 \*Recommended for all VPK instructors

FCCPC-Birth-5 Florida Child Care Professional Credential  
 DOE-Department of Education