2024-2025 New VPI Coordinator Training

August 8, 2024

OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA

This webinar will provide an overview of VPI program requirements and answer frequent questions that new coordinators often ask.

Agenda:
- State of Early Learning in Virginia
- Purpose of VPI
- General Assembly Appropriation Act and VPI Guidelines
- New Coordinator FAQs

Recording and slides will be sent to all registered participants

State of Early Childhood in Virginia

Our Shared Vision

We envision a Virginia where *all* children have the opportunity to enter school ready.

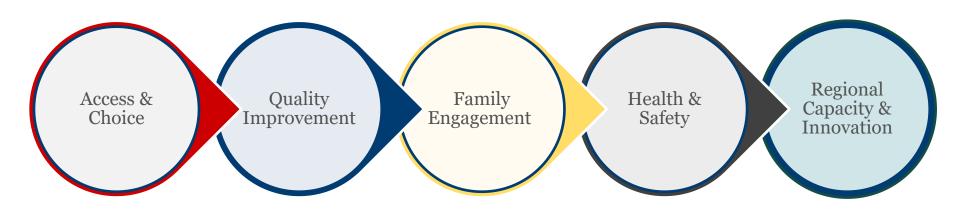Families have a variety of affordable, high-quality early learning options.

Programs are measured, supported to improve, and rewarded for continuous improvement.

Parents can work or go to school and meet their family's needs.

GOALS OF THE UNIFIED SYSTEM

Access & Choice → Quality Improvement → Family Engagement → Health & Safety → Regional Capacity & Innovation

COMPETITIVE EDUCATOR COMPENSATION IS ESSENTIAL TO EACH AREA

Purpose of VPI

CODE OF VIRGINIA - ESTABLISHING VPI

The Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) is established within the Virginia State Budget:

"With such funds as are appropriated for this purpose, the General Assembly hereby establishes the Virginia Preschool Initiative as a grant program to be disbursed by the Department of Education to schools and community-based organizations to provide quality preschool programs for at-risk three-year-olds and four-year-olds who are unserved by Head Start programs and for at-risk five-year-olds who are not eligible to attend kindergarten." (§ 22.1-289.09 (A))

PURPOSE OF VPI

From FY25 VPI Guidelines, page 4:

"The Virginia Preschool Initiatives (VPI) provides high-quality preschool education for children that have been identified as at-risk. Through a focus on advancing effective interaction and instruction, VPI programs help ensure all Virginia children enter school fully prepared for success. VPI programs are called to make continuous quality improvements in 1) use of evidence-based curriculum, 2) assessing teacher-child interactions, and 3) providing individualized professional development to educators."

Appropriation Act & VPI Guidelines

VIRGINIA APPROPRIATION ACT CHAPTER 2 ITEM 125.10 D (2024-2026)

- Requirements for VPI programs are set each year by the Virginia General Assembly as set forth in the state budget ([Appropriation Act](#)). The Virginia Department of Education establishes the VPI Guidelines in alignment with the state budget.

- The Virginia State Board of Education has established the [Early Learning Development Standards (ELDS)](#), Birth-Five Learning Guidelines to be implemented by publicly-funded programs, including VPI.

VPI Guidelines

Each year, the VDOE releases an updated set of program guidelines to set the minimum expectations for meeting the goals for VPI programs, as provided in the Appropriation Act approved by the General Assembly.

- All VPI Coordinators are expected to read and become familiar with the guidelines and ensure the guidelines are followed.

- The VPI Guidelines are always posted on the VDOE website.

VPI GUIDELINES HIGHLIGHTS 2024-2025

This webinar includes highlights of the Guidelines and is <u>not intended to be a comprehensive overview of them</u>. The Guidelines include the following sections:

Providing a Quality Preschool Education	Program Operations & Transportation
Working with Community to Provide Health Services & Facilitate Comprehensive Services	Submitting the VPI Application
Family Engagement	Appendices A-F: Serving 3 Year-Olds, Use of Preschool Assessments, Student Eligibility Criteria, Local In Kind Match, Slots in Community Provider, Wrap-Around Services
Quality Preschool Opportunities For all Learners	

Providing a Quality Preschool Education

Early childhood site that takes public funding is required to participate in the unified _Virginia Quality Birth to 5 (VQB5) system_

- VQB5 measures the quality of infant, toddler, and preschool teaching and learning based on two nationally-recognized quality indicators:
  1) Teacher-Child Interactions as measured with CLASS™, and
  2) Use of an approved quality curriculum.

See Virginia Education Update article from August 8, 2024 and the VQB5 Guidelines for more information and prepare to complete registration between Aug. 15-Oct. 1.

PROVIDING A QUALITY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Assessing Teacher-Child Interactions with CLASS Observations (page 6)
CLASS observations provide essential feedback to teachers and site leaders on the quality of the teacher-child interactions taking place in the classroom.

Continuing for 2024-2025:
- All school divisions must provide local CLASS observations twice a year (fall and spring) for all VPI classrooms, in coordination with Ready Regions. Each observation must result in feedback that is provided to teachers/assistants.
- In addition to the two local CLASS observations, all VPI classrooms must participate in statewide External CLASS Observations between Aug 15-May 31.
- Divisions should plan professional development for teachers related to the CLASS tool, as described in the professional development section below.

For more information on CLASS observations in VQB5 see the Local Observations Guidebook.

PROVIDING A QUALITY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (page 8 & Appendix B)
Currently all kindergarten students are required to be assessed in both academic and social-emotional areas using the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP) each fall and spring. Results of the assessment provide a more comprehensive understanding of each child's readiness for school.

- Since the 2022-2023 school year, VKRP has also been required for use by all VPI programs with 3- and 4-year olds
- The VKRP is aligned with the ELD Standards and assess preschoolers' **school readiness skills in mathematics, self-regulation, social skills, and literacy**.
  - Preschool VKRP includes the Preschool Language and Literacy Screener (VALLSS-PK) for the literacy portion of the assessment.
- Use of the VKRP satisfies the VPI requirements to assess students on the ELD standards in fall and spring each year.

Health & Comprehensive Services

Toilet Training (page 9)

Some VPI students may not be fully toilet trained when they start attending VPI in the fall. Toilet training is like any other self-care skill that children need to learn.

- Divisions should consider how they may schedule toilet training into the day and give the child the opportunity to practice and become more independent with the task.
- Children who are not toilet trained should not be excluded from VPI enrollment. Divisions may not add a requirement that eligible children be toilet trained prior to entrance into a VPI program.

See page 9 of the Guidelines for additional tips and resources for toilet training.

Health & Comprehensive Services

<u>Local VPI Steering Committee (page 10)</u>
A local VPI Steering Committee must be established to ensure the following:

1. Broad stakeholder support for the implementation of the VPI program within the community;
2. Coordination of services and resources to provide available comprehensive services to children and their families; and
3. Federal and state funds are maximized to preserve existing slots for 3- and 4-year-olds already being implemented in the community (supplementing, not supplanting, increase access for more at-risk children) existing slots.

VPI Steering Committee members should collaborate to establish coordinated enrollment procedures across early childhood programs to address these expectations. Recruitment and enrollment of eligible students to fill available Head Start should be a topic of each Steering Committee meeting.

Health & Comprehensive Services

Head Start Collaboration (page 11)

- VPI Programs must refer all Head Start eligible families until there is a certification of enrollment in place
  - This could be a blanket certification or an individual certification
- All VPI Programs must have an MOU/A with their local Head Start Program (see page 11 for details)
- MOU/As must be uploaded annually into SSWS as part of Fall Verification

Quality Preschool Opportunities For all Learners

Target Inclusion Rate of 10% (page 15)
VPI program leaders must focus on equity by ensuring practices and policies encourage inclusion and advancement of all children who are eligible for the program, including those who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Continuing for 2024-2025:
- Established by the General Assembly, a target inclusion rate of 10% for all children (4s & 3s) enrolled in local VPI programs are children with IEPs
- VPI programs falling below 10% will provide reasons the target was not achieved and actions to meet or exceed the target in the next school year.

See page 15 of the guidelines for more information.

Program Operations & Transportation

Student Eligibility (page 17)

Since 2022-2023, income restrictions have been removed for students with disability eligibility. Students with an IEP qualify for VPI regardless of income

Age Eligibility (page 17)

Since 2022-2023, kindergarten eligible 5-year-olds who did not have access to a sufficient preschool experience and whose families request preschool as the most appropriate placement who meet eligibility criteria can attend VPI using VPI 4-year-old slots.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

<u>Using Local Eligibility Criteria for 15% or More of Slots (page 19)</u>
Localities that can demonstrate that more than 15 percent of slots are needed to meet the needs of at-risk children in their community may apply for a waiver from the Superintendent of Public Instruction to use a larger percentage of their slots

Continuing for 2024-2025:
- The percentage (15% or higher if approved) is for the total # of slots filled (4s & 3s) on October 1.
- Must report income levels for all families of students found eligible using local criteria (fall VPI Verification Report).
- Divisions may submit a waiver application in SSWS during three submission windows:
  - 1) March 1 - May 15,
  - 2) July 1 – August 15
  - 3) September 1 – October 15.
- Superintendents must approve the waiver application in SSWS.
- VPI coordinators will need to send a request to their division SSWS manager to have the application added to their SSWS

Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) Waiver Application (VPI WAIVER) - [Data Sensitivity: Low]
This application allows VPI participating school divisions to submit a waiver to Increase Use of Local At-Risk Eligibility Criteria.

See Appendix C for more information

PROGRAM OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

Teacher Qualifications (page 20)

The state Appropriation Act language does not specify requirements for teacher licensure for VPI classrooms in community-provider settings. However, the Code of Virginia (22.1-299) requires that all teachers paid with public funds must have a teacher's license issued by the Board of Education.

- VPI state funds cannot be used to pay a teacher who does not hold a teaching license. Compensation for non-licensed VPI teachers can be paid from private funding sources.
- An appropriate endorsement on a teaching license issued by the Virginia Board of Education for a VPI teacher includes any of the following:
  - PreK-3
  - PreK-6
  - Early Childhood Special Education with 3-and 4-year-old endorsement
  - Early Childhood Special Education for self-contained special education classrooms

PROGRAM OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

Instructional Time (page 20)
As stated in the Appropriation Act, VPI programs may include unstructured recreational time that is intended to develop teamwork, social skills, and overall physical fitness in any calculation of total instructional time, provided that such unstructured recreational time does not exceed 15 percent of total instructional time or teaching hours.

Operating as a Full or Half-Day Program (page 20)
Programs must provide full-day or half-day and at least school-year services (180 days OR 990 hours). Programs must operate on a full-day or half-day basis for the entire school year to receive the full state allocation.
- Full-day programs shall operate for a minimum of five and one-half instructional hours, excluding breaks for meals, and half-day programs shall operate for a minimum of three hours of classroom instructional time per day, excluding breaks for lunch.
- For a new program, including VPI 3-Year-Olds, in the first year of implementation, a program operating less than a full school year will receive state funds on a fractional basis determined by the prorated portion of a school year program provided.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

Transportation (page 21)

- Transportation must never be a barrier to participation in VPI
- All students should have at least one VPI location with transportation available to them, this could be considered a "home" or "zoned" location, similar to elementary school students.
- When a spot is not available at the location with transportation, a family can choose to remain on that location's waitlist or attend a location with openings and self-transport.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

Monitoring (page 22)

- Programs will be monitored, at minimum, once every four years
- Monitoring is a one-year process that takes place over a 12-month period
- This process is focused on program compliance with the VPI Guidelines

Submitting the VPI Application

Funding a Qualifying Program (page 24)

VPI full day slots will be funded as follows:

- Loudoun, Prince William, Fairfax (City and County), Arlington, Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park., Falls Church (Planning District 8): $10,701
- Stafford, Fauquier, Spotsylvania, Clarke, Warren, Frederick, Culpeper, Fredericksburg, Winchester: $10,151
- All other localities: $9,968
- Half day slots will receive 50% funding

Local Funds (page 25)

- VPI Per Pupil amount is comprised of state share and local match
  - Local Match is determined by the Local Composite Index
- Local Match can be split between In kind and Cash
  - In Kind funds can be up to 50% of the Local Match

Submitting the VPI Application

Coordination of Funds (page 24)

- VPI Programs can blend and braid multiple funding sources in their PreK programs
  - Including: Title I, Head Start, ECSE (619/611), childcare subsidy, and tuition
- Only one funding source per student can be used at any one moment of the day. Funding sources cannot overlap for any one students
  - For example, a student can be funded by VPI for the school day (9:00am-3:30pm) and by child-care subsidy for wrap around care (7:00am-8:59am and 3:31pm6:00pm). A student cannot be fully funded by child-care subsidy (7:00am-6:00pm) and VPI (9:00am-3:30pm) at the same time.
- VPI Programs should coordinate with other local programs to help families achieve full day full year care when desired

SUBMITTING THE VPI APPLICATION

Late Enrollment (page 26)
Continuing for 2024-2025: school divisions may receive prorated amounts of funding for slots filled after September 30. For slots filled between October 1 and December 31 each year, grants shall be based on the state share of the per pupil amount for a full-day or half-day program prorated for the portion of the school year each child is served.

- Following the Department of Education's fall student record collection each year, the Department will work with localities to project the number of additional slots that may be filled between October 1 and December 31 each year and the appropriate prorated amount

Slots in a Community Provider (Appendix E)
New for 2024-2025: Where there is a difference between the regional estimated cost of quality and the VPI per pupil amount, add on funds may be available to mitigate this gap.

COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

School divisions are encouraged to partner with community providers to increase access to VPI services for at-risk children and their families.

- **Continuing for 2024-2025:**
  - Teachers in community provider setting are exempt from the licensing requirements for use of public funds. This means that teacher in a community provider setting can be paid with VPI funds regardless of licensure.
  - Community Providers should have defined VPI program hours of the day and VPI days. These VPI hours do not have to match the school division hours but should be at least the minimum 5.5 hours for full day. And the days should align with the school division calendar.
  - Grantees are required to have MOU/MOAs with all community providers supporting VPI slots.
  - *Mixed Delivery Wrap-around* can be used to support VPI students in a community provider setting (see Appendix F).

New Coordinator FAQs

What are essential documents for VPI coordinators?

ESSENTIAL VPI DOCUMENTS

All documents can be found on the [Virginia Preschool Initiative website](#)

- [VPI Guidelines](#): Primary source for all VPI program requirements

- [Guidelines for Using Family Income Criteria in Determining Student Eligibility & Best Practices for Implementing a Local Eligibility Process:](#) guiding document for enrolling students

- [Virginia's Early Learning & Developmental Standards (ELDS) Birth-Five Guidelines](#): learning benchmarks, all curricula must align

- [VPI State Funding Based on Student Enrollment – Fall Student Record Collection](#): guidance for enrollment coding

What is the required VPI Local Plan?

VPI Local Plan

Each spring, VPI programs submit a VPI Application in SSWS that includes the VPI Local Plan for implementing VPI in the following school year.

- Answers to Local Plan questions are saved in the system from spring to fall but not from fall to spring. Each spring a new plan is submitted to DOE.

Virginia Preschool Initiative Local Plan(Projected)

*1). Describe how the program ensures the Virginia's Birth-to-Five Early Learning and Development Standards are followed and how assessments in the five areas are assessed (Approaches to Play & Learning; Social & Emotional Development; Communication, Language, & Literacy; Health & Physical Development; and Cognitive Development).(1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*2). Describe the intentional plan for implementing meaningful parental involvement and family engagement strategies throughout the school year.(1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*3). Describe how teachers and teaching assistants are provided with ongoing training and professional development to implement the vetted curriculum. (1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*4). Provide information on who will serve as certified, local CLASS observers. Describe how teachers and teacher assistants will be supported in improving practice as a result of scores from observations completed.(1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*5). Describe how the program will facilitate linkages to obtain comprehensive services and resources for children and families (i.e., health physical, hearing and vision screenings, and behavioral and mental health screenings). (1000 characters)

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Text

*6). List all members of the VPI Steering Committee by their titles and organizations they represent. Describe how members are consulted to ensure federal funds are preserved and maximized for serving preschoolers. (1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*7). Describe how leaders representing VPI and Early Childhood Special Education programs work together as a team to support inclusive practices of children with special needs in VPI classrooms. (1000 characters)

View Whole
Text

*8). Describe the transportation plan that is in place to ensure eligible VPI children have access to a safe method of transportation to and from the home setting and the VPI program site. Describe how the program will ensure that transportation does not prevent a barrier for providing full services to eligible children and their families.(1000 characters)

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Text

What is the role of the VPI Steering Committee?

VPI STEERING COMMITTEE

A local VPI Steering Committee must be established to ensure the following:

- Broad stakeholder support for the implementation of the VPI program within the community;
- Coordination of services and resources to provide available comprehensive services to children and their families; and
- Federal and state funds are maximized to preserve existing slots for 3- and 4-year olds already being implemented in the community (supplementing not supplanting existing slots – increase access for more at-risk children).
- Meet at least quarterly to facilitate meeting community EC needs across programs.
- Ensure VPI funding for VPI programs is not being used to supplant Head Start federal funds provided for local early education programs and not be used to until the Head Start grantee certifies the all local Head Start slots are filled.

See page 10 of the VPI Guidelines for a list of required members and for additional information.

How do I know how many VPI slots our program has each year?

VPI Slot Allocation

Governor's Budget

- Each December, an article in the **Virginia Education Update** newsletter is posted announcing the Governor's proposed budget for the next fiscal year. An attachment to the memo has a tab for VPI that lists original allocated slots (4-year-olds) for each school division for the next school year.
- By February, another article is posted summarizing any proposed changes to VPI being considered by the General Assembly with a link to the original VPI slots awarded in the Governor's budget.

Final Slots Allocated: Redistribution of Slots (4-year-olds) & Awarded Slots for 3-year-olds

- Spring VPI Application: each spring school divisions claim # of allocated VPI slots they plan to fill in the fall, apply for Community Provider Add-on, and request 3-year-old slots
- After spring VPI applications are submitted in May, the DOE redistributes unclaimed VPI slots, awards 3-year-old slots, and awards Community Provider Add-on, and posts a Newsletter Update confirming final slot allocations for the upcoming school year.
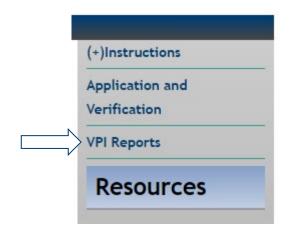
VPI Slot Allocation

Your program's history of allocated and filled slots can be found in SSWS:

1. After logging in, select the "Virginia Preschool Initiative" application
2. Click "VPI Reports" on the right side
3. Click "Verification Report" and select the year you are interested in to export a report

Remember that SSWS uses fiscal years:
      FY25 is the 2024-2025 school year
      FY24 is the 2023-2024 school year

Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) - [Data Sensitivity: Low]
Data collection and application system for the Virginia Preschool Initiative

(+)Instructions

Application and Verification

VPI Reports

Resources

How are children found eligible for VPI?

ELIGIBILITY

Age Eligibility

Eligible VPI children are 3- or 4-years-of-age on or before September 30 and are not eligible to attend kindergarten (children who are 5-years-of-age on or before September 30)

- Students who are 5-years-of-age by September 30 may be eligible if they did not have access to sufficient pre-K experience and parents believe VPI is the most appropriate placement

Residency Eligibility

Per Appropriation Act language, children must be residents of Virginia to participate in VPI. VPI slots are allocated to localities based on a funding formula specific to each locality and are funded based on funding levels specific to each locality. Therefore, children must also be residents of the locality in which they will receive VPI funding.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility Criteria

VPI students must be from a family that meets the following requirements: (i) family income at or below 200 percent of poverty, (ii) homelessness, (iii) student's parents or guardians are school dropouts, or (iv) students with special needs or disabilities.

- Up to 15 percent of a division's slots may be filled based on **locally established eligibility criteria** so as to meet the unique needs of at-risk children in the community.
- Localities that can demonstrate more than 15 percent of slots are needed to meet the needs of at-risk children in their community may apply for a **waiver** to increase local eligibility criteria.

How does the DOE communicate with VPI Coordinators?

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Readiness Connections**
  - Weekly newsletter communicating statewide early childhood information.
  - Includes a section specific to VPI with announcements, webinars, Superintendent's Memos, and important due dates.
    - Also includes sections on all other aspects of Early Childhood Care and Education.
  - You must subscribe to the newsletter.

- **VPI Coordinator Emails**
  - Tiffanie Meehling or Katie Wolfert may send out updates, reminders, or announcements periodically.
  - Distribution list is taken from contact information the division provided to DOE on the spring VPI Application and fall VPI Verification Report.
    - Anyone can be added or removed from this list by contacting Tiffanie/Katie

What is the VPI Spring Application?

VPI Spring Application

***Spring Application* is the process by which divisions indicate to VDOE their intent to participate in VPI for the upcoming year.**

- Data are gathered on anticipated slots needs and program plans. (Projections)

- The application is located in SSWS as part of the VPI Application and is opened from mid April to May 15 each year

What is VPI Fall Verification?

FALL VERIFICATION

Fall Verification **is the process by which divisions report to VDOE the status of their VPI Program in the current year.**

- Data are gathered on filled slots and program operations. (Actual)

- The application is located in SSWS as part of the VPI Application and is opened from October 1 to mid November each year

What is VPI Late Enrollment?

LATE ENROLLMENT

***Late Enrollment* is the process by which divisions report slot filled for the first time between October 1 and December 31.**

- Funding for these slots is prorated, and dependent on available funds

- The application is located in SSWS as part of the VPI Application and is opened from January 1 to January 15 each year.

How do I locate the VPI Application?

https://www.doe.virginia.gov/

Please select one of the Applications listed below

APPLICATIONS

Online Management of Education Grant Awards (OMEGA) - [Data Sensitivity: Low]

Online Management of Education Grant Awards for application submission, approvals, award, and financial tracking.
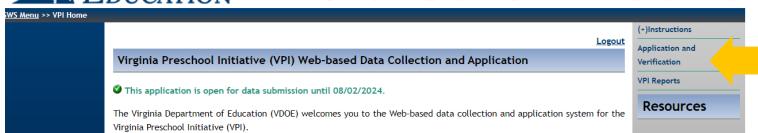
Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) - [Data Sensitivity: Low]

Data collection and application system for the Virginia Preschool Initiative

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SINGLE SIGN-ON WEB SYSTEMS

(+)Instructions

Application and Verification

Logout

Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) Web-based Data Collection and Application

VPI Reports

Resources

✅ This application is open for data submission until 08/02/2024.

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) welcomes you to the Web-based data collection and application system for the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI).

What is the Local Criteria Waiver?

LOCAL CRITERIA WAIVER

Per the Appropriation Act, all divisions can use Local Eligibility Criteria for up to 15% of enrolled slots. Divisions can request an increase in this percentage via the *Local Eligibility Criteria Waiver*.

- The application is located in SSWS as a stand alone application.
- There are three windows for application:
  - March 1-May 15
  - July 1- August 15
  - September 1- October 15

Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) Waiver Application (VPI WAIVER) - [Data Sensitivity: Low]
This application allows VPI participating school divisions to submit a waiver to Increase Use of Local At-Risk Eligibility Criteria.

What is the Fall Student Record Collection (SRC) and why is it so important?

FALL STUDENT RECORD COLLECTION

VDOE distributes state funds (using state funding formula) to VPI fiscal agents for enrolled VPI students based on VPI student data collected on the fall SRC each school year. The total number of eligible, preschool students with a VPI funding code, enrolled on October 1, and reported in each school division's fall SRC serves as the total number of VPI slots filled by the division, therefore, funded by the state.

- The number of VPI enrolled students reported by the division's SRC in the fall, with a VPI funding code, determines funding the VPI program will receive for the school year. **Thus, it is important to accurately report enrollment numbers to avoid funding complications**
  - Prorated funding may be available for slots filled for the first time between October 1 and December 31
- All public preschool students, where the school division is the fiscal agent, grantee, or sub-grantee, **must be reported on the SRC with a funding code and be assigned a Student Testing Identifier (STI)**.
- The school division must seek out and secure STIs for the students in VPI (regardless of public or community-provider setting), Title I preschool, early childhood special education, and Head Start programs (only when school division is the Head Start grantee), and where funding is supported by state or federal grants or programs.

Funding Codes in SRC

Each student is reported in SRC with a preschool funding code, according to their funding source

- There are two codes for VPI-funded students:
  - Four-year-old enrolled in VPI = code #3
  - Three-year-old enrolled in VPI = code #12
  - VPI-funded students served in a community provider setting should be reported with these funding codes

- There are also funding codes for students <u>not</u> enrolled in VPI, but placed in a classroom with VPI-funded students
  - Locally-funded student placed in VPI classroom = code #8
  - Student receiving special education funds and placed in a VPI classroom = code #14
    - A student with an IEP enrolled in VPI should be reported with code 3 or 12, depending on their age. Code 14 is only for students <u>not</u> enrolled in VPI

How are VPI programs monitored by the state?

Purpose for Monitoring

- To provide VDOE with a tool for ensuring VPI programs are implemented in compliance with state VPI Guidelines and Appropriation Act requirements,

- To provide a tool for school divisions to conduct a VPI self-study to determine areas for improvement or gaps in program implementation,

- To provide a tool for establishing a continuous improvement process that includes goals for program and student outcomes

FY25 (24/25 school Year) Divisions being Monitored

Bland County	Campbell County	Newport News City	Stafford County
Giles County	Prince Edward County	Portsmouth City	Spotsylvania County
Tazewell County	Pittsylvania County	West Point	Louisa County
Buchanan County	Appomattox County	Poquoson City	Page County
Bristol City	Halifax County	King and Queen County	Shenandoah County
Franklin County	Greensville-Emporia	Alexandria City	Warren County
Henry County	Accomack County	Fredericksburg City	Harrisonburg City
Amherst County	Chesapeake City	Manassas City	Rockingham County

What is the ECE Resource Hub?

Educational resources to support our youngest learners, from birth to five

Explore strategies, recommendations, and professional development resources to help you promote children's development.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST UPDATE

https://eceresourcehub.org/

Are we required to keep old VPI files and records?

VPI RECORDS

Yes, VPI files/records must be kept. The following statement is a part of the VPI Verification signed and submitted by school division superintendents each fall:

"The school division or local government shall retain all financial and programmatic records relative to the VPI grant funding ultimately provided for five (5) years after final payment by VDOE, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The agency, its authorized agents, and/or state auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said records during said period."

Upcoming Events

- **Monthly VPI Office Hours**: First Thursday of the month at 11 am
  - VPI coordinators are invited to attend standing office hours. This is a time for VPI Coordinators to join to ask questions or brainstorm ideas.
  - [Register to attend](#)

- **VPI - VQB5 Kick off Webinar**: Wednesday, August 14th at 10:00 AM
  - [Register to attend](#)

- **Complete LinkB5 registration, August 15 – October 1**

- **CLASS Observation Training**
  - Ready Regions, in collaboration with existing improvement partners, will support ongoing CLASS training for VQB5 participants, both to train reliable observers and to provide foundational CLASS knowledge to teachers. VPI Programs may also support CLASS trainings with VPI funding.
  - The Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) maintains a list of qualified Certified Affiliate CLASS trainers who are able to conduct Introduction and Observer training for VQB5.
  - For a list of current VECF Affiliate CLASS trainers in your locality, please email qris@vecf.org

Upcoming Events (continued)

- **Virginia Head Start Association Fall Conference**
  - The Virginia Head Start Association will now be hosting their Annual Conference from October 22-24, 2024, in Harrisonburg, VA. The sessions available will address topics across all service areas including leadership, parent engagement, disabilities, school readiness, health and safety. All HS, VPI, ECSE, and childcare providers are encouraged to attend.

- Virginia Early Childhood State of the State
  - Webinar took place on July 16, 2024. This is an excellent detailed overview of Virginia's Unified Birth-5 system

REMINDERS

- VQB5
  - All publicly-funded sites must **complete registration between August 15-October 15** in LinkB5, the VQB5 data portal.
  - Fall local CLASS observation window: August 15 to December 22
  - Spring local CLASS observation window: January 20 to May 31
  - In addition to the two local CLASS observations, all participating sites must participate in external CLASS observations for each age-level served, between August 15 and May 31

- Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP) and Virginia Literacy Partnerships (VLP)
  - Access the 2024-2025 VKRP and PreK Language & Literacy Screener Calendar for assessment window timelines
  - VPI – VKRP webinar, September 26th at 11am, register

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Katie Wolfert, PreK Program Analyst

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APPENDIX

READY REGION CONTACTS

Ready Region	Lead Agency	Contact Name(s)	Contact Email(s)
Blue Ridge	United Way Charlottesville	Kearsley Hinely	khinely@unitedwaycville.org
Central	Thrive Birth to Five	Emily Casey	ecasey@thriveb5.org
West	United Way Roanoke Valley	Jessica Griffith, Catie Sumner	catie@uwrv.org; jessica@uwrv.org
Southeastern	EVMS 9-5	Kim Ross, Lauren Gray, Navine Fortune	GrayLJ@evms.edu; rosskm@evms.edu; FortunNP@EVMS.EDU
Capital Area	Fairfax Office for Children	Rhonda Moore	Rhonda.Moore@fairfaxcounty.gov
Southside	Center for Early Success	Sara Evermoore	severmoore@centerforearlysuccess.org
Southwest	EO	Susan Patrick	spatrick@eoco.org
Chesapeake Bay	FirstSpark	Mary Sheldon	msheldon@firstsparkva.org
North Central	Foundation First	Pam Heppard	pam@foundationfirstva.org

VQB5 Resources and Information

Topic	Primary Website	Resources and Information
VQB5	[VDOE Quality Measurement and Improvement (VQB5)](#)	• VQB5 Implementation Guide (English/Spanish) • Local CLASS Observation Guidebook & Feedback templates • Webinar Recordings • Participation FAQs
CLASS in VQB5	[AEII Tools and Resources for Understanding and Using CLASS](#)	• CLASS Summary Docs (English/Spanish) • Guidance for Using CLASS in Diverse Settings • PD toolkit and resources
Curriculum in VQB5	[Early Childhoood Curriculum](#)	• Approved Curriculum List • Resources to support curriculum choice
Early Learning Standards	[Standards & Instructional Supports](#)	• Early Learning & Development Standards (ELDS) • Other resources and instructional tools to support school readiness

Questions about VQB5 can be directed to vqb5@doe.virginia.gov

VKRP Resources and Information

- Visit the VKRP website and review FAQs

- Use this link 2024-2025 VKRP and PreK Language & Literacy Screener Calendar to access the timeline for assessments.

- Explore resources for new directors after logging into VLP

VKRP Team: 1-866-301-8278 ext. 1; vkrp@virginia.edu; vkrponline.org

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