

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Conforming Bill
Relating to the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education

BILL

2024

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Voluntary Prekindergarten
3 Education; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising
4 administrative expenditures; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.;
5 establishing criteria for the Summer Bridge Program;
6 providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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10 Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 1002.71, Florida
11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 (7) The department shall require that administrative
13 expenditures be kept to the minimum necessary for efficient and
14 effective administration of the Voluntary Prekindergarten
15 Education Program. Administrative policies and procedures shall
16 be revised, to the maximum extent practicable, to incorporate
17 the use of automation and electronic submission of forms,
18 including those required for child eligibility and enrollment,
19 provider and class registration, and monthly certification of
20 attendance for payment. A school district may use its automated
21 daily attendance reporting system for the purpose of
22 transmitting attendance records to the early learning coalition
23 in a mutually agreed-upon format. In addition, actions shall be
24 taken to reduce paperwork, eliminate the duplication of reports,
25 and eliminate other duplicative activities. Each early learning
26 coalition may retain and expend no more than ~~4.0~~ 5.0 percent of
27 the funds paid by the coalition to private prekindergarten

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providers and public schools under paragraph (5)(b). Funds retained by an early learning coalition under this subsection may be used only for administering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and may not be used for the school readiness program or other programs.

Section 2. paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

(b) A Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program student who has attended at least 80% of the school year program and who exhibits a substantial deficiency in early literacy skills in accordance with the standards under s. 1002.67(1)(a) and score below the 10th percentile on ~~based upon the results of the administration of the final administration of the~~ coordinated screening and progress monitoring under subsection (8) shall be referred to the local school district and ~~may be eligible to receive~~ early literacy skill instructional support intensive reading interventions through a summer bridge program the summer before participating in kindergarten. The summer bridge program must meet requirements adopted by the department and shall consist of 4 hours of instruction per day for a minimum of 100 total hours. Such early literacy skill instructional support ~~intensive reading interventions~~ shall be paid for using funds from the district's evidence-based reading instruction allocation in accordance with s. ~~1003.4201-1011.62(8)~~.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.