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PARENTS
VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN



Florida's Voluntary Universal
Prekindergarten Program

High-Quality Learning Opportunities for Every 4
 Year Old **UPK VPK**

- WHO?** Any child who will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2005 is eligible to attend universal voluntary pre-kindergarten during the 2005-2006 school year.
- WHAT?** Florida's Universal Pre-kindergarten Program is voluntary and consists of 3 hours of high quality early childhood education on a daily basis, funded by the State of Florida. **Want to know more? Click here!**
- WHEN?** Classes start August 2005.
- WHERE?** Private institutions in Duval county that have been approved by the Early Learning Coalition of Duval County. **Want to know more? Click here!**
- WHY?** To enrich the lives of all pre-school aged children in Florida and prepare them for kindergarten. **Want to know more? Click here!**
- HOW?** You may pre-register your child on the state's website at www.upkflorida.com. Once there, click on the button called, "Parent Pre-Application." You may also call Cathy Parker at the Early Child Learning Coalition of Duval County at (904) 208-2044, ext. 206 for more information. **Want to know more? Click here!**

Click here to learn more about services for pre-school aged children that are not part of the Florida Voluntary Universal Pre-k Program.

WHAT?

The state legislature created two different options for parents.

- A school-year program consisting of 540 instructional hours of classes (August - May) at no charge to parents; and

- A summer program consisting of 300 instructional hours of classes (May - August)

Parents may elect to send their children to universal voluntary pre-kindergarten during the summer *instead* of during the school year. For further details, you may view an analysis of the legislation on the state website: www.upkflorida.com.

WHERE?

At this time, voluntary pre-kindergarten classes are not planned for any Duval County public schools. In Duval County, Florida's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten initiative will be carried out through approved private institutions. The Early Learning Coalition of Duval County will be implementing the Universal Pre-Kindergarten program during the 2005-2006 school year. **This agency will have a list of private institutions who are eligible to provide universal pre-kindergarten classes.**

HOW?

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval County may be reached at (904) 208-2044, ext. 206. All questions regarding voluntary pre-kindergarten should be directed to the Early Learning Coalition. You may assist the Early Learning Coalition in calculating how many UPK classrooms are needed by pre-registering your child at www.upkflorida.com. **This will not complete your child's application process but will help the Early Learning Coalition make sure they have enough UPK classrooms.**

Services provided by Duval County Public Schools for pre-school aged children:

- **Title I**
Federally funded pre-k for children who are 4 years old on or before September 1 of the enrolling school year. Call (904) 390-2123 for more information.
- **Magnet Schools**
Pre-k for 3 and 4 year old children. Call (904) 390-2082 for more information or visit the Magnet Programs website at www.magnetprograms.com
- **Exceptional Student Education (ESE)**
ESE Pre-k is for children who have a disability as specified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Children may be enrolled as soon as they turn 3 years old. Call (904) 390-2071 for more information or visit the Exceptional Student Education website at www.esepgrams.com
- **Early Education and Intervention**
Special programs related to pre-school aged children and their parents. Call (904) 390-2803 for more information.

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