

VPK Provider Performance Metrics and Designations

Frequently Asked Questions

Performance Metrics and Designations

1. How does the Division of Early Learning (DEL) calculate performance metrics and designations?

A VPK provider's performance metric is calculated using the following three weighted components:

- 50% Program Quality,
- 20% Student Achievement, and
- 30% Student Learning Gains.

A detailed description of the procedures used to calculate VPK provider performance metrics is provided in the *Guide to Calculating Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Provider Performance Metrics and Designations* available at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/vpk-accountability>.

2. Does DEL calculate a performance metric and designation for all VPK providers?

Yes, DEL calculates a performance metric and designation for each VPK provider that has sufficient data.

3. What happens when a provider does not have sufficient data for a performance metric and designation?

DEL assigns the status of [Incomplete Provider](#) to providers without sufficient data. For more information, see the *Guide to Calculating Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Provider Performance Metrics and Designations* available at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/vpk-accountability>.

4. Where does DEL publish the performance metric and designation?

DEL publishes performance metrics and designations on the VPK Education Program Accountability webpage (<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/vpk-accountability>).

5. Does DEL calculate a performance metric and designation for individual VPK teachers or classes?

No, DEL calculates performance metrics and designations for the VPK provider, not for individual teachers or classes.

6. Does DEL calculate separate performance metrics and designations for school-year programs and summer programs?

Yes, DEL calculates performance metrics and designations separately for school-year programs and summer programs. If a provider offers a school-year program and a summer program, the provider receives two different metrics and designations.

7. Do VPK school-year programs have to administer PM2 since it is not used to calculate the performance metric and designation?

Yes, VPK school-year programs must assess children during PM2 as required by law. A PM2 assessment provides important data to a child’s family and VPK instructors about what the child is ready to learn and how families and instructors can support the child’s learning.

Eligible Child

8. What does “eligible child” mean with regards to performance metrics and designations?

Eligible child means a child who has completed more than 50% of the instructional hours at the VPK provider. DEL looks at paid hours (from days attended, reimbursable absences, and reimbursable closures) to determine the number of instructional hours completed.

9. What happens when a provider has fewer than four eligible children?

DEL assigns the status of [incomplete](#) to providers with fewer than four eligible children. For more information, see the *Guide to Calculating Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Provider Performance Metrics and Designations* available at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/vpk-accountability>.

10. Does the performance metric and designation calculation include children with disabilities?

Yes, the calculation includes children with disabilities. Children with disabilities are required to participate in VPK FAST assessments that generate data for the Student Achievement and Student Learning Gains components.

11. Does the performance metric and designation calculation include children who are English language learners?

Yes, the calculation includes children who are English language learners. Children who are English language learners are required to participate in VPK FAST assessments that generate data for the Student Achievement and Student Learning Gains components.

Quality Component

12. Why does the quality component include providers that receive below 4.00 for their composite program assessment score?

DEL is required by law to calculate a performance metric and designation for all VPK providers with sufficient data, regardless of the provider’s future eligibility status.

Achievement Component

13. When an eligible child completes more than one assessment during PM3, which assessment does DEL use in the calculation of the achievement component?

DEL uses the child’s first assessment in the PM3 window to calculate the achievement component.

14. What happens when an eligible child's last assessment was before the PM3 window started?

DEL excludes children without an assessment in PM3 from the calculation of the achievement component.

Learning Gains Component

15. When an eligible child completes more than one assessment during PM1 or PM3, which assessments does DEL use in the calculation of the learning gains component?

DEL uses a child's first assessment in the PM1 window and the child's first assessment in the PM3 window to calculate the learning gains component.

16. What happens when an eligible child's first assessment was after the PM1 window ended or when their last assessment was before the PM3 window started?

Assessments outside of the PM1 and PM3 windows are not used in the learning gains calculation. DEL excludes children who do not have an assessment in both PM1 *and* PM3 from the calculation of the learning gains component.

17. When calculating a child's growth rate, does DEL use the PM start dates, the PM end dates, or the dates the child completed the PM1 and PM3 assessments?

DEL uses the dates a child completed the PM1 and PM3 assessments when calculating a child's growth rate.

18. When calculating a child's growth rate, does DEL count calendar days or instructional days?

DEL counts calendar days between a child's PM1 and PM3 assessments when calculating a child's growth rate.

19. Does a child demonstrate sufficient gains if they maintain the highest literacy classification (Probable Reader) from PM1 to PM3, even if their Unified Scaled Score (USS) goes down?

Yes.

Reenrollments

20. What happens when a child completes more than 50% of the instructional hours at Provider A, then reenrolls with Provider B where the child completes a PM3 assessment?

DEL includes the child in the achievement component and learning gains component of Provider A because that is where the child completed more than 50% of the instructional hours.

21. What happens when a child completes the PM1 assessment at Provider A, then reenrolls with Provider B where the child completes more than 50% of the instructional hours and the PM3 assessment?

DEL includes the child in the achievement component and learning gains component of Provider B because that is where the child completed more than 50% of the instructional hours.

Incomplete Providers

22. What does “Incomplete Provider” mean?

Incomplete Provider means a VPK provider that did not have sufficient data for DEL to calculate a performance metric and designation.

23. Are Incomplete Providers on probation?

No, Incomplete Providers are not on probation and are not required to complete an improvement plan. However, an Incomplete Provider must complete a technical assistance plan to identify the reasons it did not have sufficient data for performance metric and designation calculation and strategies to address those reasons.

Probation

24. Which performance designations place providers on probation?

Performance designations of “below expectations” and “unsatisfactory” place providers on probation.

Other Questions – Revised March 2026

25. Who do I contact if I have other questions about performance metrics and designations?

Email your ELC VPK provider representative.

26. Who do I contact to appeal the performance metric and designation?

There is not a process to appeal the performance metric and designation. Providers can contact their ELC or VPK Regional Facilitator to schedule a time to review their data to better understand the calculation and identify opportunities to improve performance.