

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
March 27, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.204, Uniform Attendance Policy for Funding the VPK Program

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Sections 1002.73(2)(d), 1002.79, 1001.213(2), F.S.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The rule establishes a uniform attendance policy for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program as required by s. 1002.71(6)(d), F.S. The uniform attendance policy adopted in the rule is used only for funding purposes, it does not prohibit a provider from adopting and enforcing its own attendance policy. Attendance reporting requirements, reimbursement for absences, VPK class schedule requirements and temporary closure policies are established in the rule to ensure that each program is providing the required instructional hours and is eligible to receive payment for services.

The rule amendment provides clarification on when temporary emergency closures are payable and under what circumstances which will allow for consistent application of the rule across the state. Paragraphs four and five of the rule text were substantially rewritten to provide better organization of rule content and clarity. Additional revisions include updates to rule language to simplify and streamline the rule text, providing clarification of existing policy and procedures.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6M-8.204, F.A.C.

**Facilitator:** Cari Miller, Chancellor, Division of Early Learning