

School Readiness (SR) and Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Orientation Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The purpose of this FAQ is to provide guidance on provider orientation requirements established in the Statewide School Readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten Provider Contracts. View a copy of the SR contract [here](#) and the VPK contract [here](#).

1. What is provider orientation?

The provider orientation introduces key requirements and expectations for participating in the SR and/or VPK Programs.

2. Why is provider orientation required?

Federal regulations and agency rule require that child care providers receive training about SR and/or VPK Program requirements and program integrity to help ensure providers deliver safe, compliant and high-quality early learning services.

3. Must new providers attend orientation?

Yes. New providers must attend orientation.

4. Must existing providers attend orientation?

Yes. Existing providers must attend orientation.

5. Must existing providers with ownership changes retake the orientation?

Yes. Providers with ownership changes are considered new providers and must attend orientation.

6. How often must a provider attend orientation?

Providers seeking an SR or VPK contract must attend annually.

7. What is the deadline by which a provider must attend orientation?

A provider must attend orientation before SR or VPK contract execution.

8. Must providers attend orientation in-person?

Each coalition is to decide how best to deliver the required orientation.

9. Which provider staff must attend orientation?

Orientation is required for the person responsible for SR or VPK program compliance or who has SR or VPK provider contract signature authority. The Division of Early Learning (DEL) encourages providers to have one additional person attend orientation.

10. Must out-of-county providers attend an orientation with each coalition?

No. Providers attend orientation at their home coalition.

11. How long must orientation be?

Duration may vary but must cover all topics in the DEL-provided PowerPoint.

12. Can coalitions modify the DEL-provided orientation?

Coalitions may add coalition-specific information to the information provided in the DEL PowerPoint. Providers that participated in coalition-developed orientation prior to DEL releasing its orientation for the 2026-2027 year will be considered as having fulfilled the requirement. Starting with the 2027-2028 year, all coalitions' orientations must cover all topics in the DEL-provided PowerPoint.

13. How often must coalitions offer provider orientation?

Coalitions must provide orientation on an ongoing basis to ensure reasonable access for new and existing providers.

14. How will the coalition document provider participation in the orientation?

Coalitions may record participation using sign-in/out logs, virtual platform reports or attestations.