



Media Alert

For Immediate Release
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VPK ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OFFERED BY EARLY LEARNING COALITION

*Registration available 24 hours a day/7 days a week...
No more waiting or taking time from work!*

The **Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.** is proud to announce the release of our Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) online registration system on September 23, 2013. Online registration can be completed at www.phelc.org.

Parents/Guardians will no longer need to wait in line or take time off from work to enroll their children in VPK. Registration can take place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The process is as simple as entering the child's information and electronically submitting proof of Florida residency and the child's birth certificate or shot record. Once approved the parent will print the certificate of eligibility and enroll the child in a VPK program of their choice.

"The VPK Online Registration system will improve the Coalition's customer service and save taxpayers money; goals we are always striving for. This online registration system will also be an additional opportunity to ensure all children eligible for the program have the opportunity to participate," said Betsy Kier, Assistant Executive Director of the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is currently enrolling children in the 2013-2014 Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program, free for every Florida four-year-old who turns four years of age on or before September 1st, 2013.

About the Coalition

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is one of 30 Early Learning Coalitions in Florida. It works to ensure that programs and services are available to assist families with young children during their formative years. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program is for all children who are four-years old on or before September 1st. School Readiness provides subsidized child care for low-to-moderate income working families. Starting as separate organizations in 2000, Pasco and Hernando counties joined forces to form the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties in 2005. The non-profit serves over 9,000 children between infancy and eight years old, working with more than 300 providers in the counties.

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