



#164-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #164-22**

DATE: August 5, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Registration Now Open for Virginia's Early Childhood Unified Measurement and Improvement System - VQB5 Final Practice Year**

This memo seeks to inform you that registration for the 2022-2023 VQB5 Practice Year is now open. Preschool programs, including Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI), Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), and Title I preschool, are strongly encouraged to participate in this final opportunity to practice prior to the fall 2023 legislative participation requirement. Registration for the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5 takes place from August 1st through September 16th.

[VQB5](#) is Virginia's New Unified Measurement and Improvement System for early childhood programs. In June 2022, the Board of Education approved guidelines for the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5. This is the final practice year for VQB5. As a reminder, **all public school preschool programs, including VPI, ECSE and Title 1 early childhood programs will be required to participate in VQB5 beginning in August 2023.**

VQB5 supports quality improvement for all publicly funded birth-to-five classrooms. As part of VQB5, your preschool programs will receive feedback and support on two nationally-recognized quality indicators: Interactions (measured through [CLASS](#) observations) and Curriculum.

VQB5 for Public Schools in the 2022-2023 School Year - Final Practice Year

2022-2023 is the second and final practice year for VQB5. All divisions should participate in the 2022-2023 practice year to prepare for the 2023-2024 VQB5 requirement.

School divisions that participate in the 2022-2023 practice year will receive:

- Training and support, including training and resources on the CLASS tool, to strengthen quality in early childhood classrooms.
- A “practice VQB5 rating” shared privately with leaders in fall 2023 (practice ratings are not posted publicly).

Beginning in fall 2023, participation in VQB5 will be required for every [early childhood site](#) that takes public funding, including public schools with pre-K classrooms. This includes classrooms that are funded by Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI), Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)/IDEA, Head Start, or Title I. VQB5 Rating information from the 2023-2024 school year will be shared publicly by fall 2024.

Required Next Steps for School Divisions

Registration for the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5 opened on August 1st and runs through - September 16th, and is available in every part of Virginia through [Ready Regions](#). School divisions must either 1) register for the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5, or 2) notify the VDOE that they are opting out of participating.

Participation in the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5 - Register by September 16th

To participate in VQB5, school divisions (VPI coordinators, ECSE coordinators, or other early childhood leaders) should contact [your local Ready Regions leader](#), prior to September 16, 2022. All school divisions will be contacted by their local Ready Region between August 1st-September 16th to register for the 2022-2023 VQB5 Practice Year.

Opting Out of the 2022-2023 Practice Year of VQB5 (not recommended) - Notify by September 16th

Participation in the 2022-2023 VQB5 Practice Year is strongly encouraged but not required. School divisions that offer VPI or ECSE and opt not to participate in the 2022-2023 Practice

Year for VQB5 must notify the VDOE by September 16th, by emailing vqb5@doe.virginia.gov, [per the requirement in the 2022-2023 VPI Guidelines](#).

For more information

The VDOE hosted a VQB5 Information Session for VPI Coordinators in June 2022. The [recording](#) from that webinar is available.

- A VQB5 Info Session webinar for ECSE programs will be held on August 17th at 12pm - [Info and Registration](#)

Additional information about VQB5 can be found on the [VDOE Quality Measurement and Improvement \(VQB5\) webpage](#). Questions regarding VQB5 can be directed to Kris Meyers, Associate Director of Quality Measurement and Improvement, at Kris.Meyers@doe.virginia.gov.

JB/JC