

60BB-8.205 Advance Payment and Reconciliation for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program

(1) Coalition Advance Payment.

In order that early learning coalitions can make advance payments to Voluntary Prekindergarten Education (VPK) providers, during the first month of each fiscal year, contingent upon funding availability, the Agency for Workforce Innovation (the Agency) shall provide a coalition advance payment to each early learning coalition. The coalition advance payment shall also be used to offset actual coalition expenditures and must be fully offset or repaid prior to submission of the final invoice for the fiscal year. Each coalition's coalition advance payment shall not exceed the school-year base student allocation divided by twelve (12) multiplied by the highest monthly VPK program enrollment, as defined in rule 60BB-8.100, F.A.C., at the coalition during the previous fiscal year.

(2) Provider Advance Payments.

(a) Each VPK program provider may choose to receive advance payments for each VPK class offered by the provider instead of receiving payments in accordance with the Agency's uniform attendance policy under rule 60BB-8.204, F.A.C. In order to receive advance payments for a VPK class, the VPK provider must notify its early learning coalition that it has chosen to receive advance payments in writing no later than the twentieth (20th) day of the month before the VPK class is scheduled to begin.

(b) Each early learning coalition shall make advance payments to VPK providers no later than the tenth (10th) day of the month for which the provider is receiving an advance payment.

(c) Providers that choose to accept monthly advance payments shall receive an advance payment for each month of the VPK class and a reconciliation payment following the conclusion of the VPK class instruction.

(3) Advance Payment Calculation.

(a) Each coalition shall calculate the amount of each advance payment using the statewide information system. Each advance payment shall be equal to the sum of the number of instructional hours each student enrolled in the class is scheduled to attend in the month multiplied by ninety five (95) percent of the class hourly rate. The class hourly rate shall be equal to the county's allocation per child as calculated in accordance with s. 1002.71(3), F.S., divided by the total number of hours in the VPK program type (school-year or summer) being offered.

(b) Each coalition shall calculate the amount of the reconciliation payment by determining the total amount due to the VPK provider for the class under rule 60BB-8.204, F.A.C., and subtracting the amount previously paid as advance payments.

(4) Overpayment.

(a) If the coalition determines that a VPK provider received payment in an amount greater than the amount earned by the provider, resulting in a negative reconciliation payment calculation, the coalition shall make reasonable efforts to collect the overpayment from the provider. Reasonable efforts may include but are not limited to informing the provider of the full amount owed, making written requests for repayment, offering to negotiate a repayment schedule, and offsetting the overpayment against any future payments for early learning programs.

(b) If the coalition is unable to arrange for collection of the overpayment within ninety (90) calendar days of determining that the provider has received an overpayment and after making a reasonable effort, as determined by the Agency, the coalition shall provide all information necessary for the Agency to act to collect the overpayment. The Agency retains the ability to require the coalition to make continued efforts toward recovery of the overpayment or to consider the overpayment to be a disallowed expenditure of the coalition.

Rulemaking Authority 1002.75(2)(h), 1002.75(4), and 1002.79(2), F.S. Law Implemented 1002.71(5)(b), 1002.75(2)(h), and 1002.75(4), F.S. History – New _____.