Early Care and Education Partners Weekly Update Webinar
August 26, 2020
Important Dates

- Board of Directors Meeting
  - Tuesday, September 8, 2020
  - Join Zoom Meeting
  - https://zoom.us/j/94313303566

- Provider Services Committee Meeting
  - Thursday, September 24, 2020
  - Join Zoom Meeting
  - https://zoom.us/j/96812047506
What’s New?

¿Qué hay de nuevo?
Communications

- Join our Facebook Group for Early Learning Partners
- Únase a nuestro grupo de Facebook para Compañeros de Aprendizaje Temprano
  - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/EarlyLearningPartners/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/EarlyLearningPartners/)
Communications

- Visit the Provider’s Corner page on our website
- Visite la página de la Esquina del Proveedor en nuestro sitio web
- https://www.elcmdm.org/providers/providers-corner
#HeretoTeach #HeretoCare #HereforYou

Ask your child care provider what extra steps they are taking to provide a safe environment, such as:

- Frequent Cleaning and Disinfecting
- Smaller Group Sizes
- Frequent Hand Washing
- Wearing Face Coverings
- Daily Temperature Checks
- Virtual & Distance Learning

Questions about child care? Call us at 305-646-7220

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Pregunte a su proveedor de cuidado infantil qué medidas adicionales está tomando para ofrecer un ambiente seguro, como:

- Limpieza y desinfección frecuentes
- Grupos más reducidos
- Lavado de manos frecuente
- Uso de mascarillas o tapabocas
- Control diario de la temperatura
- Aprendizaje virtual o a distancia

¿Preguntas sobre el cuidado infantil? Llámenos al 305-646-7220
Payments

Update on Attendance Processing, Recording of COVID-19 Absences and Parent Co-Payments

- For **School Readiness**, absences would need to be recorded with an “A” for absence and under the dropdown select the option of "**Absence due to Disaster**" and no documentation would be required.

- For **VPK**, absences would need to be recorded with an “A” as usual. Since these absences will contribute to “hours paid,” there will be no 80/20 calculations/adjustments or deductions during the effective period.

- As of today, the Coalition is authorized to continue to pay providers for COVID-19 related absences through **August 31, 2020**.

- Parents Co-Payments (parents’ fees) will continue to be automatically **waived** through **August 31, 2020**. The Coalition will continue to **reimburse providers at a 100%** (without any deductions for parents copays).

- During the waiving period, providers **are not permitted** to collect these fees from parents. However, parents would still be responsible to pay for the provider’s rate differential.
The **2020-2021 School Year for Miami-Dade** is scheduled to begin on **Monday, August 31, 2020**, and for **Monroe** on **Wednesday, August 19, 2020**.

Therefore, the Breaks & Holiday **Full Time schedule** for the summer will end on **Friday, August 28, 2020** for Miami-Dade and for **Monroe** on **Tuesday, August 18, 2020**.

For School-Aged Children, we have three different types of **enrollment schedules** each automatically **following** the Public School Districts Calendars:

- **1-** Child attends **one provider** for After School Care and School Breaks & Holidays.

- **2-** Child attends **a provider** for After School Care Only.

- **3-** Child attends **a provider** for School Breaks & Holiday Only.
Under the School Readiness Program, the Child enrollment schedule with Care Level and assigned Unit of care drives the Attendance.

- 1- Child attends **one provider** for After School Care and School Breaks & Holidays.

  \[ \text{Child Enrollment Schedule} = \text{Monday – Friday} = \text{PT and FT for Breaks & Holidays} \]

- 2- Child attends **a provider** for After School Care Only.

  \[ \text{Child Enrollment Schedule} = \text{Monday – Friday} = \text{PT} \]

- 3- Child attends **a provider** for School Breaks & Holiday Only.

  \[ \text{Child Enrollment Schedule} = \text{FT for School Breaks & Holidays Only} \]
School Readiness providers offering **Full-Time** services for School-Aged children not attending brick and mortar schools, will be reimbursed the approved **Full-Time** School-Aged rate. Upon reinstatement of **parent fees** requirements, parents will be responsible for the **part-time** parent copayment (DEO EO-20-06).

- After School Care providers under **child enrollment Schedules** scenarios 1 and 2 have the functionality to change the **Unit of Care** from **Part Time (PT)** to **Full Time (FT)** before submitting attendance.
Payments
Update on Reimbursement and Attendance Processing for School-Aged Children During COVID-19
Temporary Closures

Providers under *child enrollment Schedule* scenario 3 do NOT have the functionality to *alter or change* the *Child enrollment Schedule*. Therefore, a transfer request will need to be completed by the parents and submitted to the Coalition’s Transfer Unit.

For instance, if the school-aged child is currently enrolled with MDCPS for after school care, and the district is going virtual learning for the first quarter, the parents have the option to transfer the child to a private provider that is open. If the transfer is processed the child will get enroll with the private provider for after school care (*which is PT*) and we will be able to reimburse the provider FT during the COVID-19 epidemic. The provider would just need to change the *unit of care* from PT to FT prior to submitting attendance.
goals
- To allow VPK parents to have the same choice as the K-12 district plan and to allow parents to rejoin the workforce.
- Structure safeguards that will encourage and shift families to in-person learning.

participation requirements
- Miami-Dade and Monroe public schools and private VPK providers may deliver their VPK program consistent with their school district’s approved K-12 reopening plan. Miami-Dade and Monroe’s District Flex plans have been approved.
- Must be in good standing with the Statewide VPK Provider Contract, have NO Class 1 violations within the past two years and not have a contract with the ELC terminated for cause within the past five years.

assurances
- Assurances will be submitted through EFS Mod (Proposed release date of assurances – August 26th)
- REMINDER – You cannot start VPK Flex until your program has been approved.

providers on probation
- Providers on Probation must continue to implement their approved improvement plan.

questions/concerns
- VPKTeam@elcmdm.org
Assurances

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to support private providers and early learning coalitions (ELCs) in the development, submission and approval of the private provider’s plan for delivering the VPK School Year Program, if opting to use a flexible, innovative delivery option. This is an added feature to in-person instruction, but not a replacement. This option is available through December 31, 2020 for private providers that meet the requirements below.

The following assurances and additional information must be completed and submitted (through EFS Mod) to OEL and the ELC for review and approval.

I. ASSURANCES AND VPK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The VPK provider, and the ELC where appropriate, agree to the following assurances. The provider will describe how each of these assurances will be met.

Assurance 1: The provider and ELC will ensure that flexibility proposed for the fall 2020 VPK School Year Program is consistent with the district’s 2020-21 Optional Innovative Reopening Plan approved by the Department of Education.
Assurance 2: The provider will ensure that participating students will have equal access to the learning and any required materials, including technology.

Assurance 3: The provider will ensure that the 2020-21 School Year program delivers the required 540 hours of instruction by qualified staff (s. 1002.55, F.S.) including daily contact with the enrolled student and their family. The portion of the VPK program implemented through a flexible, innovative model shall not exceed a total of 270 hours. The provider must ensure there is space available to allow students attending the flexible, innovative program in fall 2020 to return to the face-to-face delivery model for the remainder of the school year program.

Assurance 4: The provider will maintain the ability to track daily attendance of both students and staff. (s.1002.71, F.S. and 6M-8.305, F.A.C.)
Assurance 5: The ELC will ensure that tools used in the innovative option are aligned with VPK standards and are developmentally appropriate. (s. 1002.67, F.S) ((Describe the tools to be used and upload examples of instructional plans under Documents in the VPK Flex Application folder.)

Assurance 6: The provider will monitor the student’s performance towards meeting the VPK standards using the VPK Assessment. (s. 1002.67, F.S)

Assurance 7: The provider will ensure that the assigned instructor is appropriately trained and knowledgeable of how the selected system works. (Describe the qualifications and training of the staff.)
Assurances

- Assurance 8: The provider will ensure that parents are reminded of the opportunity to withdraw and transfer to another VPK program if they choose to do so. (Describe how families will be notified.)

- Assurance 9: The provider will ensure the systems in use are secure and will not allow for the release of protected student or staff information. (s. 1002.72, F.S.) (Describe the technical requirements of the system to be used.)

- Assurance 10: The provider will ensure that the ELC and OEL staff will be provided access to the innovative learning program implementation for monitoring purposes.
The Office of Early Learning (OEL) is hosting a series of webinars to support private providers in the development and submission of a private provider’s plan for delivering the VPK School Year Program, if opting to apply to use a flexible, innovative delivery option.

- Thursday, August 27 (Repeated): 5:00-6:00 pm EST
  - https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8681132893507115787
- Friday, August 28 (Repeated): 1:30 -2:30 pm EST
  - https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4496302577749856523