ELCB SPRING PROVIDER MEETING

Thursday, March 17, 2016
BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

• Legislative Session ended March 11

• To be signed by the Governor
BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

School Readiness:
Additional $10m for contracted slots for providers located in poverty tracks

VPK:
Additional $5m to allow for additional enrollments based on increase in population; no increase to the per student allocation
BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Child Care Development Block Grant bill passed (School Readiness)
- Requirements for personnel in child care
- Early Learning Florida (UF)
- TEACH
- Performance Funding Pilot
- Help Me Grow
BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

5 Year Olds in VPK

VPK Readiness Rates

VPK Pre-Post Post Assessment
“Each child who resides in this state who will have attained the age of 4 years on or before September 1 of the school year is eligible for the VPK program during either that school year or the following school year. The child remains eligible until the child is admitted to kindergarten, or unless he or she will have attained the age of 6 years by February 1 of any school year…”
VPK READINESS RATES

• 2014 – 2015 Preliminary Rates recently released
• No rates released for 2013 – 2014
• Changes in measures
  – Work Sampling System
• Concerns about 14 – 15 rates
VPK READINESS RATES

05-06: 5% POP
06-07: 10% POP
07-08: 9% POP
08-09: 7% POP
09-10: 5% POP
10-11: 18% POP
11-12: 14% POP

12-13: 8% POP
13-14: 8% POP (No Rate)
14-15: Less than 1% POP

Hmmm…..
Dear VPK Provider,

In late December, the Office of Early Learning (OEL) sent a letter regarding provider availability of 2014-15 VPK preliminary kindergarten readiness rates. Providers were able to log in and verify data as well as view their program’s preliminary rate.

Earlier this week, the Florida Legislature agreed on a budget. There is a 72-hour period before they actually vote on it and forward it to Governor Rick Scott for his consideration. Along with the budget, there is an implementing bill with language that addresses how to implement the budget. The implementing bill directs OEL **not to adopt a kindergarten readiness rate for the 2014-2015 or 2015-2016 academic years.**

Accordingly, **OEL will not calculate or adopt kindergarten readiness rates.** The VPK provider kindergarten readiness rate website has been updated to reflect this change. When you log in and search for 2014-15 readiness rates, you will read **“No providers received a 2014-15 readiness rate.”** This will become available to the public by Monday, Mar. 14.

While some providers may have shared preliminary readiness rate data, the rates were always identified as preliminary. They were not intended for public distribution until they became final and available on the VPK Program Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate website.

The implementing bill also specifies that any VPK provider on probation in 2013-2014 will remain on probation. Providers on probation will continue to abide by their current, approved improvement plan.

Please contact OEL with any questions at vpkquestions@oel.myflorida.com or 1-866-447-1159.

RJM

**Rodney J. MacKinnon**  
**Executive Director**  
Office of Early Learning  
State of Florida
Dear VPK Administrator:

When the Florida Legislature agreed on a budget earlier this week, it did not include funding to continue the Teaching Strategies GOLD pre- and post-assessment for the 2016-17 VPK program year. Although the budget is not yet final, if it is approved Friday, the loss of funding will not affect requirements for the current program year.

Florida law requires VPK providers to complete the GOLD post-assessment (Assessment Period 3/Checkpoint 3) for the current 2015-16 program year. Since there are serious consequences for not meeting this requirement, it is important to make a full faith effort to submit results by your AP3 data submission deadline.

The loss of funding only impacts the GOLD assessment. There is no change in status or funding for the Florida VPK Assessment. Providers are also required to administer the VPK Assessment for AP3.

Should you have GOLD-related logistical questions such as how to log in or use the GOLD system, please contact the Teaching Strategies GOLD help desk. You may do so by emailing flvpk@teachingstrategies.com or calling 1-844-838-4653 (7 a.m.-7 p.m. EDT, Mon.-Fri.)

If you have VPK policy questions, please contact the VPK team at the Office of Early Learning by emailing VPKquestions@oel.myflorida.com or calling 1-866-447-1159.

Thank you for your hard work on behalf of Florida 4-year-olds.

Rodney J. MacKinnon  
Executive Director  
Office of Early Learning  
State of Florida
AROUND THE CORNER...

Quality Rating and Improvement System
Contract Reminders

- School Readiness
  - Exhibit 3
    - Provider Update Form
    - Private Rates Flyer
      - Considerations?
  - Amendments

- VPK
  - Start date on or after August 10th
CONTRACTS REMINDERS, CONT.

• Now accepting applications
• All documents at www.elcbrevard.org
• Insurance sent by agent
• Updated Delegation of Authority
• Reminders are a courtesy
• Incomplete applications will cause delays
  – Processed in order they are received
FINANCE/REIMBURSEMENT UPDATES

• Attendance MUST be submitted timely
• Requested monitoring documents must be submitted by date requested
• Non-compliance WILL result in delayed payment
• Check your email regularly!!!
• Thank you to those that participated in our survey
ABSENCE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN

• Who?
  – A child from birth to school entry
  – Receiving services for protection
    • Certificate will show:
      – BG1 or BG3R

• Reporting Requirement:
  – Provider must report any unexcused absence or seven (7) excused absences by the end of the business day after the day of absence.
  – Provider must consider the termination of an at-risk child as an unexcused absence and notify the eligibility specialist named on the certificate.

• Report absence by:
  – Emailing: intake@brevardfp.org
  – Calling: 321-752-4650

• Complete and submit form to:
  – Assigned ELC contact listed on form.
PROVIDER SERVICES

• Our New
• Provider Relations Coordinator: Paula Gonzalez

• School Readiness and VPK Monitoring Training

• Early Learning Florida
• Early Learning Performance Funding Pilot

• T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship
DCF UPDATES

Tom Peer
Tiffani Brown