



Town Hall Meeting: 1-19-2021

Bi-Weekly Update



01.19.2021

Town Hall Agenda

- Welcome
- SR and VPK Payment for January
- Enrollment Updates
- E-Verify
- VPK AP-2 and VPK Pilot Project
- Child Assessment Period 2
- NEW PDG Professional Development Stipends
- COVID Vaccination Update
- Questions



January SR and VPK Payment

- Open SR providers will be reimbursed for up to 10 total absences (3 excused and up to 7 with documentation). **Please note that documentation is once again required beyond the first three absences.**
- **Parents are required to pay the SR copayments.**
- Open VPK providers will continue to be reimbursed according to the “80/20 rule” consistent with the VPK contract. This means that providers will be reimbursed 100% for students who attend at least 80% of the month.

Enrollment Updates

- Preparing for SR enrollments for the coming year
- ELC staff will be calling requesting capacity
- SR children not attending should be terminated
 - Lee/Hendry/Glades- Delia Buckley 239-935-6127
 - Collier- Amanda Devariste 239-935-6113
- Be sure to check enrollment queues
- Children listed as Pending Family Acceptance soon **will not be paid**
- VPK COEs need to be submitted with all enrollments
- New VPK enrollments submitted in the portal will not be approved until we receive the completed form



E-Verify

- All new contracts after 1/1/2021
 - Current providers with a 20-21 contract do not have to do anything until they apply for a 21-22 SR or VPK contract.
 - VPK and SR providers adding new employees to the VPK App or QPS will also need to fill out the form during the 20-21 year.
- To enroll visit:
 - <https://www.e-verify.gov/employers/enrolling-in-e-verify>
- Upload signed affidavit to the document tab in your Provider Profile
- Questions can be directed to your Early Childhood Specialist



VPK

- VPK AP-2 should be done this month and entered into Bright Beginnings by February 15th 
- **VPK Progress Monitoring Pilot Project**
 - **Assessment window opened January 4th and closes February 5th.**
 - **Technology devices and headphones have been ordered but providers do not need to wait to take the assessment.**
 - **Should these devices become lost or damaged, replacements will not be provided.**
- Star Early Literacy Assessment technology support will be available by contacting Renaissance Place Help Desk: 1-800-338-4204 or PilotVPK@renaissance.com.



Child Assessment

- Winter Child Assessments are due by January 31st. (Sunday)
- Get them done early so you are not getting phone calls all day Friday the 29th.
- Be sure to Finalize them!



NEW PDG Professional Development Stipends

- The Office of Early Learning is excited to share that Florida Early Childhood Educators are eligible for a **\$75** stipend upon the successful completion of specific online courses by **June 30, 2021**, or until the stipend funding is depleted. The maximum stipend an eligible participant can receive is \$225. (3 courses/events x \$75 = \$225). Successful completion may include an end-of-course assessment or certificate of completion.
- **A participant agreement must be received and approved before courses are taken.**
- For directions and forms, go to the ELC website <https://elcofswfl.org/early-childhood-education-professional-development-stipends/>

Vaccines for COVID-19

- Vaccines became available at the local health departments approximately December 29th.
- Each state decides what category gets the vaccine first, Florida has determined those over 65 and medical workers have priority.
- Currently the state has 1.25 million doses and there are over 22 million residents in the state not including visitors.
- These are free federal vaccines and anyone in the United States can have one.
- Approximately **710,000** people have been vaccinated, **61,200** have completed the series with 2 vaccines, about 14,000 are overdue.

Can the Vaccine Make you Sick?

- No. **None** of the authorized and recommended [COVID-19 vaccines or COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States](#) contain the live virus that causes COVID-19.
- This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.
- Sometimes as the vaccine teaches your immune system to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19 you may experience symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are a sign that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19.

Vaccines, continued.

- It will take a few weeks, once vaccinated, to build immunity. This means you could be infected by the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or after vaccination.
- Both Pfizer and Moderna require 2 vaccines to reach about 95% protection.
- This means you won't get as sick if you get the virus, but you still could get the virus and pass it to others.

Announcements & Questions?

- New trainings are available on the ELC website, including more CLASS, ASQ and health trainings. Go to the homepage and click on “Click here to register for trainings” on the bottom of the page.
- Provider Questions from the Chat Box
- Questions/comments from you





Thank you!

Our next meeting will be on 2/2/2021

We will meet every other week on Tuesdays or as announced

Thank you for your continuing support of children and families now, and especially during the current health emergency!

