

## Provider Services Team:

The Contracts department is currently working on Summer VPK Applications and executing School Readiness (SR) Contracts for 2021-2022.

### School Readiness:

Any provider who has not yet created and completed their 2021-2022 Provider Profile in the Portal must complete their profile immediately in order to ensure their SR Contract is in place by July 1.

Providers without an active contract on July 1, 2021, risk non-reimbursable days in July. Providers who need to create their 2021-2022 Provider Profile can access this process in their portal account.

### How to access Provider Profile

Go to the Profile page and follow the instructions in the most recent Provider Portal User Guide (pg. 52). **A link to that document can be found on the Provider's Portal Dashboard on the bottom right in the "Frequently Used Links" box.** There is also a copy of the User Guide on the Coalition's website, [HERE](#).

### Continue to monitor active profile

Providers who already have an active 2021-2022 Provider Profile should continue to check messages in their account for 2021-2022 SR Contract notifications. All SR Contracts must be signed as soon as possible to allow our staff time to enter the 12 chosen Paid Holidays to providers' rosters for '21-'22 before the contract begins on July 1, 2021.

Providers who are not planning to renew their SR Contract for 2021-2022 should contact their Contract Specialist to stop receiving further communications on the process.

### Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK):

VPK applications are currently being accepted and reviewed. Due to the late start many programs experienced this last year because of COVID, the summer VPK hours have been adjusted to allow for 200 Instructional Hours vs. the required 300 Instructional Hours. **Listed below are some VPK summer options:**

## CEO: Legislative

It's official, early learning is in the spotlight in Florida, and across the nation!



Florida's 2021 Legislation concluded on a high note for early learning. A collection of transformational legislation was passed to strengthen Florida's early learning system.

### Most notably these will:

- Eliminate the Office of Early Learning and will create a Division of Early Learning within the Department of Education
- Require program assessments (CLASS) for all VPK programs
- Implement screening and progress monitoring (**STAR Early Literacy**) in VPK programs
- Restructure provider performance evaluation using program assessment, developmental gains and final achievement score at the end of VPK; eliminates the use of FLKRS for VPK Readiness Rates
- Provide payment differentials up to 15% for high performing VPK programs
- Equip parents with timely data to make decisions for their child
- Provide remedial programming through public schools for children struggling at the conclusion of VPK
- Require vehicles used by child care facilities or large family child care home providers to be equipped with reliable alarm system to prevent children from being left in a vehicle.

[Click here for a complete legislative update.](#)

### 1. Reenrollment into Summer VPK

Children who completed less than 70% (378 hours) of 2020-2021 school year VPK program can reenroll into a 2020-2021 summer VPK program. **Please contact us at 400-4411 option 3, option 1 to discuss eligibility with a VPK team member.**

### 2. Summer VPK

200-300 instructional hours

(public schools and private providers)

School districts offer Summer VPK programs at approved schools. **Private providers can choose to offer a Summer VPK program.** Children who have not previously attended a VPK program **OR** who meet the reenrollment criteria listed above may be eligible to participate.

### 3. VPK Specialized Instructional Support (SIS)

VPK SIS is an option for children with disabilities who have a current Individualized Education Plan where certified or licensed professionals provide instruction or therapy in individual or small group settings outside of a traditional classroom setting. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#).

### 4. Reenrollment into the 2021-2022 School Year VPK Program

Children whose birthday falls between Feb. 2 and Sept. 1 of the program year **and** who completed less than **70% (378 hours)** of the 2020-2021 school year VPK program, can reenroll into the next program year (2021-2022) due to extreme hardship and utilize **their remaining instructional hours or funding that was unused from previous program year.**

There will be two Contract Review Sessions for the 2021-2022 SR & VPK Contracts held at 6:30 pm via Zoom on June 2, 2021, and June 8, 2021. Below is the link to register for the Zoom meeting. Staff will review changes to the Contracts from the previous year's contract, highlight new procedures, and answer questions related to the contracts and processes.

**When: Jun 2, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time**

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912345678>

**When: Jun 8, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time**

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing



## The Screening and Intervention Team

### What is happening in SAI??

Our PDG Mental Health Grant allowed us to open the **FSU Professional Certification in Trauma and Resilience: Level One** to an additional 50 providers!! That makes a total of 68 staff and childcare directors/providers who will be certified by June 30!

If you have been enrolled, remember, this is a self-paced, virtual certification course. It can be completed at any time **before June 30, 2021**. After completion, please send your Certificate to [kmiller@elcpinellas.org](mailto:kmiller@elcpinellas.org).

## Family Services Team

Our Live Chat is available for customer assistance on our website Monday through Friday from 8am – 5:00 pm. We would love to chat with you!

[CLICK HERE](#)

# Reimbursement Department



Providers must submit sign-in, sign-out sheets for children served in their program at the same time electronic attendance is submitted each month.

All sign-in, sign-out sheets must be received by the due date designated on the Provider Portal attendance screen. Attendance not received may not be processed or reimbursed by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

We recommend providers upload the siso sheets to the monthly sign-in, sign-out sheet folder. If you must fax attendance sheets, please be sure to receive a confirmation sheet from the fax that shows the result = ok or received by the ELC. **Sign-in, sign-out sheets should be submitted in alphabetical order.**



**The 2020-2021 End of Program Year Verification Forms** will be uploaded to the Document Library on your OEL Provider Portal after attendance is processed for the last month of the provider's VPK instruction.

We are approaching the end of the program year, which will require VPK providers to sign verification forms quickly. It is our recommendation that all VPK providers review reimbursements to date in preparation for finalizing the verification process when their program ends. **Once you receive your forms, please follow the instructions on the form.**

## School Readiness and Voluntary Pre-K

Any unsubmitted attendance for July 2020 through April 2021 must be submitted via the OEL Provider Portal to the ELC by **May 31, 2021**.

**The Fiscal Year will end as of June 30, 2021**, and in order for late 2020 – 2021 attendance to be processed and reimbursement to be guaranteed for all providers, all attendance documentation must be submitted to the ELC by May 31, 2021.

**No late attendance will be processed after May 31 deadline!**

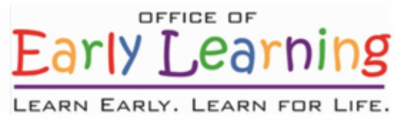
Please refer to the Reimbursement Specialist caseload assignment and contact list available on the ELC website for reimbursement-related questions.

## Join us for NapTime News!



Are you looking for ways to connect with other child care educators in Pinellas County? Searching for tips and programs to improve your classroom and professional goals? **Be a part of our child care community discussions on Facebook each Friday at 1:30pm.**

Not a member yet? Connect with us on Facebook, [HERE](#), to sign-up



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