

Dear Providers,

As we come to the end of this challenging school year, I would like to say thank you for all you have done. I appreciate your unwavering commitment to supporting your teachers, children, and their families. Georgia's Pre-K Program benefits from your strong leadership. Thank you.

Please see below for this week's Pre-K updates and important information.

- The **transportation payment** for December through May will be processed by May 30th.
- The **Payment disputes** due date has been extended to May 30th. If a payment does not reflect the reported roster data, a payment dispute should be submitted to panda.finance@dec.al.ga.gov.
 - An example of a payment dispute is the lead teacher salary not calculating according to what was reported on the roster.
 - The dispute process is not intended to address lead teacher credential and/or CYE matters that should have been address prior to the last roster submission.
- **Work Sampling Online**
 - Please ensure that your teachers have finalized Period 2 and completed the Narrative Summary Report for each child prior to family conferences.
 - **Printing Copies of Narrative Summary Reports and Developmental Checklists**
 - Traditional Model and Hybrid Model: Teachers should print a copy of the Narrative Summary Report and Developmental Checklist for the students in their class.
 - Full Distance Model: Teachers should download and save a copy of the Narrative Summary Report and Developmental Checklist for the students in their class. When teachers return to the classroom, the teacher should print Narrative Summary Reports and Developmental Checklists.
 - **Family conferences** should be conducted with each family and may be done via a web-based platform.
 - All **WSO logins will be disabled** on July 2nd so Pearson can remove all 2020-2021 data and begin preparing the system for the 2021-2022 school year. Administrator logins will be reinstated in July. Teacher logins will be reinstated in August. Start-up reminders will be sent to you and your teachers via email.

POWER Supplemental Payments: The POWER Supplemental Payments application for employees in early learning programs opened on May 17th in KOALA. The application will be open for 4 weeks and will close promptly on June 11, 2021 at 6:00pm. If you have specific questions, refer to the POWER Supplemental Payments FAQ document on the DECAL website. The FAQ will have the most current information and can be found using the following link: http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/documents/attachments/ECB_FAQ.pdf. You may also email SupplementalPayments@dec.al.ga.gov with questions or concerns.

Please note that school systems will not complete an application as the supplemental payments for Georgia's Pre-K Lead and Assistant Teachers employed by school systems was processed in PANDA on April 26th.

- **Awarding of Grants for School Year 2021-2022**

The first round of funding was completed on May 14th. Programs can review funding decisions in PANDA. Grant agreements will be sent through email by June 4th. Private child care centers must complete Affirmation of Lawful Presence in PANDA before a grant agreement can be issued.

Funding decisions for new and expansion classrooms are carefully made reviewing the need for additional classes in the area, program enrollment, application content, and quality, as well as program quality and compliance. We will continue to monitor the need for additional classes across the state as we approach the beginning of the 2021 – 2022 school and have current enrollment and wait list information.

If your program applied for an expansion class, remember to review your 2021 – 2022 Grant Agreement for the number of classes the program was awarded. If you have questions, please contact your assigned Pre-K Specialist or call the Specialist of the Day at 404-656-5957.

- **Important Dates:**

- o **May 30:** Last day to submit a payment dispute

Stay well,
Susan

Susan Adams
Deputy Commissioner
Georgia's Pre-K and Instructional Supports