



February 15, 2016

Dear Providers,

I hope that you were able to participate in the Pre-K Updates webinar on Wednesday, February 3rd. If not, the webinar slides and recording are available for download at <http://dec.al.ga.gov/Prek/ProjectDirectors.aspx>. (Click the Webinars/Presentation Slides tab and scroll down to *Pre-K Update Webinar- February 3, 2016*.) During this webinar, I gave an overview of the Governor's recommended Pre-K budget for the 2016 – 2017 school year. This **preliminary** budget includes additional lottery funds to support salary increases for lead and assistant teachers and operating expenses.

Today I am excited to release the *Preliminary **Draft** of the 2016-2017 Georgia's Pre-K Annual Rates*. The attached draft rate chart will also be posted on our Pre-K Updates webpage. The rate chart is a projected class-level, annual payment summary based on zone and teacher credentials. Please note the following additions and/or changes to the rate chart:

- Benefit and non-instructional funding has been combined into *Operating*.
- A Master's pay level has been added for Lead Teachers.
- Salary amounts for lead and assistant teachers reflect increases based on the Governor's budget recommendations.

The *Preliminary **Draft** of the 2016-2017 Georgia's Pre-K Annual Rates* chart does not include the additional budget recommendation for a *Compensation Model for Pre-K Lead Teachers*. This increase will be based on an individual teacher's credible years of experience and cannot be represented in the rate chart. The draft budget proposed a 3% increase for every 2 years of **credible** teaching experience.

If you have questions regarding the salary increases, please review the *Pre-K Update Webinar- February 3, 2016*. The information in the webinar reflects the most current information available regarding the draft budget.

Please note that the budget, if passed, will necessitate the development of new Pre-K Policy. This policy would address specifics regarding eligibility for credential – based salary increases, as well as, the definition of credible years of experience. DECAL anticipates releasing more specific information on the *Compensation Model for Pre-K Lead Teachers* on March 16th.

It's a good day in Pre-K!

As always, thank you for your support.

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

Preliminary Draft of the 2016-2017 Georgia's Pre-K Annual Rates for 1 Class of 22 Students

Credential	Private Metro Area		Private Non-Metro Area		Public School	
Two Year Degree	Salary Lead	\$ 21,029.27	Salary Lead	\$ 21,029.27	Salary Lead	\$ 21,029.27
	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66
	Operating	\$ 32,875.12	Operating	\$ 26,282.82	Operating	\$ 23,163.88
	Total	\$ 69,466.05	Total	\$ 62,873.75	Total	\$ 59,754.81

Credential	Private Metro Area		Private Non-Metro Area		Public School	
Four Year Degree	Salary Lead	\$ 26,780.00	Salary Lead	\$ 26,780.00	Salary Lead	\$ 26,780.00
	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66
	Operating	\$ 34,241.50	Operating	\$ 27,649.20	Operating	\$ 24,530.26
	Total	\$ 76,583.16	Total	\$ 69,990.86	Total	\$ 66,871.92

Credential	Private Metro Area		Private Non-Metro Area		Public School	
Four Year Degree & Certified	Salary Lead	\$ 35,118.35	Salary Lead	\$ 35,118.35	Salary Lead	\$ 35,118.36
	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66
	Operating	\$ 36,222.69	Operating	\$ 29,630.39	Operating	\$ 30,196.77
	Total	\$ 86,902.70	Total	\$ 80,310.40	Total	\$ 80,876.79

Credential	Private Metro Area		Private Non-Metro Area		Public School	
Masters Degree*	Salary Lead	\$ 39,552.00	Salary Lead	\$ 39,552.00	Salary Lead	\$ 39,552.00
	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66	Salary Asst.	\$ 15,561.66
	Operating	\$ 37,276.13	Operating	\$ 30,683.83	Operating	\$ 31,715.47
	Total	\$ 92,389.79	Total	\$ 85,797.49	Total	\$ 86,829.13

Note: The rates stated above are based on the recommendations made by the FY 2017 Governor's Budget Report and have not been approved by any legislation. Therefore all amounts should be considered preliminary and may be subject to change. The rates do not include any form of supplemental pay for lead teachers, start-up funds, sparsity allowances, or transportation funds.

Metro Areas = Camden, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale Counties

Non-Metro Areas = All other counties not listed as Metro or are located out of state.

Public Schools = All County, City, or Charter Schools

* - For school year 2016-2017, three additional rates have been added for Lead Teachers with a Masters Degree credential. DECAL is currently in the process of defining the qualifying criteria for this credential and the rate amounts above may only be used as estimates once qualification has been established.