

VPK RELATED QUESTIONS	
<b>Q</b> I have only had 2 VPK kids show. Can I still do VPK with only two children or does the mandatory 4 VPK kids still apply?	<b>A</b> Yes - you need 4 children enroll to start a VPK program. Once it is started, the program is up and running.
<b>QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/7/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL</b>	
<b>Q</b> Do we still get reimbursed for VPK even if students do not show?	<b>A</b> Yes – just mark the absences in the attendance sheet in the provider portal and upload the long or short form and sign in/out sheets to BlueJean
<b>Q</b> Do we only mark A's for the days we were open and the children were not present or also for the days we closed?	<b>A</b> Mark A's for all dates VPK was offered including the days your site was closed due to an emergency.
<b>Q</b> Are providers who elected to temporarily close due to Covid 19 circumstances being reimbursed while closed as stated in the OEL guidance?	<b>A</b> Yes
<b>Q</b> Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work	<b>A</b> No - From OEL Guidance(3.26.20) all VPK program absences will be paid from March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020. (The effective period will be reassessed every 15 days.) Since the absences contribute to “hours paid,” there will be no 80/20 deductions during the effective period for school-year classes.
<b>Q</b> Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work?	<b>A</b> No. The CDC is recommending that people wear masks while in public, but this is not a requirement.
<b>Q</b> I see that my attendance is already correct on my calendar. Do I still need to wait until I get an email to proceed?	<b>A</b> We have some (as of 4/16) but supplies are very limited. We continue to look for these resources.
<b>Q</b> For voluntary closure do we also write COVID-19 on the short/long form as well?	<b>A</b> Yes
<b>Q</b> Specific to VPK, we voluntarily closed, how to we mark children in the portal?	<b>A</b> Mark all children enrolled in VPK with an 'A' if your site voluntarily closed. Leave the X for the days the child attended while you were open.
<b>QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/14/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL</b>	
<b>Q</b> Regarding VPK Improvement Plans, can we just submit the Improvement plan for now and implement the plan at a later date when more training options are available?	<b>A</b> Yes, at this time providers are only required to submit their Improvement Plan (choosing their 2 Target areas no later than May 30th). Time will be allowed for providers to complete the plan.

<b>Q</b>	What happens with the VPK readiness rate for 2018-2019 and the purchase of new Curriculums?	<b>A</b> The 2018-19 VPK Readiness Rates are still in effect and providers on probation still have the option to select either a New Curriculum or Staff Development Plan as their first target area of their Improvement Plan.
<b>Q</b>	Does it matter where you purchase the new curriculum?	<b>A</b> It doesn't matter as long as it is the most recent/correct version and is a legitimate production of the curriculum.
<b>Q</b>	Our curriculum is no longer on the list. So, even if you are not on probation, we still have to choose a new curriculum?	<b>A</b> It is not necessary for you to purchase a new curriculum if you are not a provider on probation. Even for providers on probation, purchasing a new curriculum is just one of the options they have to meet the requirements of their Improvement Plan.

SCHOOL READINESS RELATED QUESTIONS			
Q	When we enter our first "D" and write "Absence due to Disaster" once, do we need to repeat it for every absence thereafter?	A	Yes - you can copy and paste the comment
QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/7/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL			
Q	Can we put just disaster in comment or just "D" instead of typing out?	A	Once you type it once, copy and paste the statement into the additional boxes. See instructions below for how to copy and paste if needed.
Q	How do we mark as "D"?	A	OEL is updating the EFS-Mod System to allow for the option of "D" to be entered for absences connected with COVID-19.
	How will we know if they transferred? If we aren't doing zero balance?	A	Zero Balance Transfer Forms are only waived for children transferring from sites that have temporarily closed. ELCMC Staff will be paying attention to enrollments at closed sites as children transferring cannot be enrolled at a closed location and at an open location simultaneously. ELCMC Staff will contact hte providers if additional information is needed.
Q	Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work	A	Yes - you still need to remain in compliance with all ratio guidelines required through DCF and we recommend you follow the CDC recommendation of no more than 10 people occupying a single space at any given time.
Q	Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work?	A	No. The CDC is recommending that people wear masks while in public, but this is not a requirement.
Q	Covid 19 circumstances being reimbursed while closed as stated in the OEL guidance?	A	We have some (as of 4/16) but supplies are very limited. We continue to look for these resources.
Q	My SR attendance change today to and now my closure days have an asterick is that correct? and what does that mean?	A	Yes - this is correct. This means that our staff are inouting the necessary emergency closure data on the administrative side. Please do NOT submit your
Q	If vpk is open and no kids do we put a absent on the attendant?	A	Yes
QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/14/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL			
Q	Ok what if they are paying to hold their spot but not coming?	A	This is a business decision for you to make. The funding provided should be used for a familiy needing services regularly and not on an individual basis.

Q	What if they don't bring the kids every day?	A	For the absence code, forllow the instructions for the first three absences as you typically would, for additional absences, enter the code "Absense Due to Disaster".
Q	Will we have to submit sign in/out sheets for April if we choose to remain closed?	A	No

<b>COVID-19</b>			
<b>Q</b>	Are providers who elected to temporarily close due to Covid 19 circumstances being reimbursed while closed as stated in the OEL guidance?	<b>A</b>	Yes
<b>QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/7/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL</b>			
<b>Q</b>	Are masks required now?	<b>A</b>	Masks are not required, but they are recommended by the CDC.
<b>Q</b>	Are we still allowed to take our classes on the playground?	<b>A</b>	Yes within the guidelines of the CDC and it is recommended that you sanitize equipment between each groups use.
<b>Q</b>	Are we only allowed to be open for essential workers only?	<b>A</b>	This is a business decision but you MUST follow CDC guidelines.
<b>Q</b>	Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work	<b>A</b>	No - the CDC is recommending
<b>QUESTIONS BELOW FROM 4/14/20 1PM PROVIDER CALL</b>			
<b>Q</b>	Has there been any directives from any state agency that mandates staff to wear masks at work?	<b>A</b>	No. The CDC is recommending that people wear masks while in public, but this is not a requirement.
<b>Q</b>	DOH has suggested that all Child Care workers should be tested. Is MC DOH going to provide that service for our centers?	<b>A</b>	Not at this time.
<b>Q</b>	Will you get gloves?	<b>A</b>	We have some (as of 4/16) but supplies are very limited. We continue to look for these resources.
<b>Q</b>	Do you have hand sanitizer?	<b>A</b>	Not at this time but ELC is planning to order some.