



UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL UPDATE

4.6.26

PURPOSE

This document offers Universal Preschool updates to local providers.

UPDATES

Roundtables

We will hold roundtables this week on Thursday, April 9 at 1:00 and 6:00 PM. This will largely be about the mechanics of direct enrollment, for those of you who need a refresher. There is a new zoom link on the UPK page at www.jointinitiatives.org/upk so please use that link to participate. Of course, if we have additional updates from the state, we will include those first. The roundtable will be recorded for those of you who cannot make it.

Calendars

Remember to submit your 2026-27 calendars for your programs if you have not already done that. Calendars need to be submitted at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOA-WLkTmImZxh_UsOf66CrVYGga48h9p9N0sZHtZzulRcUA/viewform. If you have already submitted a calendar but need to make a change, re-submit to the same link and the state will take the latest version as your calendar. Calendar submission information can be found on JI's UPK page under the title "Calendar Submission".

Quality Standards

We are told that the state is a couple of weeks away from publishing a user-friendly document on the Quality Standards. They will likely send all providers a link to that publication and as soon as it is available, we will provide a link to the document on JI's UPK page. May's roundtable will likely be about Quality Standards, too.

The state intends to hold provider office hours specifically about the Quality Standards, as follows:

April 21 at 6:00 PM: General standards review for all provider types
April 28 at 11:00 AM: School district presentation
May 5 at 6:00 PM: Family Child Care presentation
May 12 at 11:00 AM: Community-based presentation
May 19 at 6:00 PM: Community-based presentation
May 26 at 11:00 AM: General standards questions

Once the link is available, we will forward it to you and publish it on the JI UPK site.

2025-26 UPK Year and Payments

The UPK year officially ends on May 15 for payments for May (paid in June). If your calendar has you running past that time to achieve the required minimum hours, that is fine but the enrollment for May will be downloaded by Metrix IQ on May 15.

If a provider received a pre-payment for a student, their last payment for that student will be sent on May 15. The state is auditing the pre-payments to ensure students are still enrolled at the same provider. If a student is no longer at that site, those specific funds will be recovered from the provider by the state. If you did not receive a pre-payment, your May payment will come to you on May 29.

March to May reconciliation requests must be submitted by June 5, with payment on June 22. For further information, click on the Four Year Old Preschool Services Funding memo on the JI UPK page.

2025-26 Expenditure Reporting

Your Q2 report was due in your Metrix Enroll account on March 31. If you have not already submitted that report, please do it immediately as your April 15 payments will likely be held up if you have not submitted that report.

Your final (Q3) report for 2025-26 will be due on June 30 in your Metrix Enroll account. If you are having problems getting into your Metrix Enroll account, you **MUST** submit a ticket to coupkpayments@metrixiq.com or call at 720-729-9383. We at JI cannot help you access this account!

One more thing...

Even though we are in direct enrollment, providers MAY NOT decline a family for any reason UNLESS one of two situations is true:

- (1) You have checked off something on your set up form that still applies during direct enrollment (i.e. you checked off that you are a co-op and require parent participation, and the parent is not able to meet those participation requirements)
- (2) The family has requested a program in which you do not have available seats. In that case, you would use the declination reason that you have no gen ed seats available.

We as the LCO are required to review decline reasons and reverse them if they are not considered to be appropriate.

So, what do you do if you have a family who is choosing not to come with you or you are concerned about whether it will be a good fit? Have the family decline the match OR reach out to Heather or me to withdraw the choice — but we will need to know the reason why you are “declining” and may advise you to try another route.

If you have questions, please attend the April 9 roundtable at either 1:00 or 6:00 p.m.

Please reach out to me or Heather if you need assistance. Noreen is nnglt@mac.com or 719-338-7223 (email preferred). Heather can be reached at upk@jointinitiatives.org, hmayheu@jointinitiatives.org or 719-630-0927. You may also submit to the help desk at upk@jointinitiatives.org or visit help.upk.colorado.gov. You may also refer families to any of these methods for assistance.