



STATE OF ALABAMA  
GOVERNOR KAY IVEY

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



JEANA ROSS  
SECRETARY

July 1, 2019

TO: Regional Directors and Program Staff  
FROM: Jeana Ross, Secretary of Early Childhood Education  
RE: **Funding Amounts and Disbursement Schedule for 2019-2020 School Year**

The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education is increasing base funding for First Class Pre-K program classrooms. This increase will include the 4% teacher pay raise as well as an additional per-pupil allocation. In 2016, the Department introduced pay parity for private childcares and we remain committed to paying teachers according to the teacher salary matrix established for Alabama's K-12 public school teachers. An additional \$200 per child enrolled in the First Class Pre-K program will be provided. The child enrollment numbers are based on the average daily attendance for the first 20 days of the pre-k school year. This increase will assist in maintaining high-quality teachers in First Class Pre-K program classrooms without the necessity of completing additional funding applications. A separate application, however, must be completed by the program directors to provide funding for teachers with advanced degrees (ie: master's or doctorate degree). Program directors of private childcares should contact their regional director for further guidance on non-public school teacher salaries.

The Department will ensure that all grantees receive a payment during the summer to assist with initial expenses. To support this change, all grantees who submit the signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) prior to the year-end deadline of July 15, 2019 will receive a summer check. All MOUs received after the due date will be processed after October 1, 2019. The remaining grant award will be disbursed in 3 equal payments over the school year.

The payment schedule for the 2019-2020 school year is as follows:

- Initial disbursement processed by July 31, 2019
- 2<sup>nd</sup> disbursement processed by November 15, 2019
- 3<sup>rd</sup> disbursement processed by February 15, 2020
- Final disbursement processed by May 15, 2020

If you have any questions regarding these processes, please contact Tammy Gibson at 334.202.1636 or [tammy.gibson@ece.alabama.gov](mailto:tammy.gibson@ece.alabama.gov). You may also contact your regional director.

Cc: Jeana Ross, Secretary of Early Childhood Education  
Dr. Tracye Strichik, Senior Director, Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education  
Dr. Barbara Cooper, Director, Office of School Readiness  
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