

PRE-K PROGRAM PROVIDER QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

August 3-4, 2022

Q- Do you only reimburse based on attendance?

A- It is based on school days. We will pay whether the student is present or absent. If you have 180 school days, and the child remains enrolled at your school for 180 school days, whether they are present in the building or absent, we will pay for our portion of that day, which would be 2.5 hours times \$6 an hour or less, depending upon your agreement with the family.

Q- Will you need to have our school calendar to know how much to pay?

A- No, our newly automated system is going to have a calendar, and when you are submitting invoices to us, you'll log in, and you'll click on the days that you had school days and we have it all automated in the background.

Q- How often are the invoices submitted?

A- The invoices should be submitted on a monthly basis. We reimburse after the fact. For those of you that start your programs in August, you can invoice us for August any time after September 1st. For those of you that start in September, you will invoice us after October 1st and so on.

Q- What have you found in your research as to why you're giving these funds?

A- We have a few reasons why at the city of Miami Beach we are providing this scholarship. First, we want to make sure that the families here in Miami Beach can choose quality providers, and that they can place their children into an educational setting, especially early on, where they are going to receive a superb education that will set them up for the future. Another reason for us and for our elected officials is we want to attract families to Miami Beach and we want to incentivize people who are choosing a place to live to choose to live within the city of Miami Beach, because we have many programs not just this one that are that exist nowhere else unless you live in Miami Beach. We want to encourage young families to consider us as a place to live, work, play, and raise the family.

Q- So the lottery is still paid the same amount regardless of the child's attendance? If they miss a few days, we don't have to subtract that from the invoice?

A- It is the same amount whether the child is present or absent. Now, of course, if you have a child that's you know, not coming for more than 10 days then we might take a look and see what's going on. But we are going to pay for whether they're present or whether they're absent. We do not pay for any holiday at all but if it's a school day we pay. If the school decides to shut down the school for a period of time (for example: covid outbreak), and therefore there are no school days, then we will not pay for those. We will pay for school days whether the child is absent or present, and of course they remain a resident of Miami Beach.

Q- When is this online automated system going to be active?

A- We will be ready to have invoices for August submitted on our online system by September 1st.

Q- When will the provider application for the 2023-24 school year be active?

A- As soon as that piece of the program is ready, we will let all of you know by email, a Letter To Commission, and our website. When parents are submitting applications to us, they see a list of providers who have indicated a desire to partner with us, and they select from that list of providers. That's why we will encourage all of you when we open up the application for providers for the 2023-24 school year to be sure you reapply because it's an annual application, so that you then appear as an option for families to select.

Q- Is the stipend just one per family? Or can two family members of the same family win the lottery?

A- It's unique for child. We've had families that had 2 children who won the lottery from the same family (i.e. twins.)

Q- What are the ages of eligibility?

A- Families who live in the City of Miami Beach and who have a child (ren) who is 4 years old on or before Sept. 1st on the school year. It is not for two- or three-year-olds.

Q- If someone moves out of the City, can those scholarships be awarded to someone else?

A- We go right to the next lottery number on our waitlist. Every family who applies gets a lottery number.

Q- How can we market so that more parents are aware of the program?

A- Our communications department places information about this program on our website, and we reach to all of you and ask you to share the information as well. We haven't yet started promoting for the 23-24, application period, because we haven't opened those applications to families yet. We will be opening them in October. We are going to host many informational sessions throughout September/October. When we have the flyer ready for the informational sessions, we will ask all of you to help us in sharing that information with the families who have 3 year olds in your school, so that they have the information immediately and then, when we open the application, they apply because there is a very tight application period and a very firm deadline.