

September 2, 2011

Dear PAT Contact,

It is hard to believe that school has already started and pretty soon we will be hearing about Winter break. We know many programs have started serving families, some have gone through the new Foundational Training and lots of questions are being asked about PAT. The Early Learning section at DESE would like to share a few pieces of information that we hope will assist you in providing services to PAT families.

CHANGES FOR FY12

The first change is regarding services with non high needs families. Programs will continue to have funding for non high needs families with no more than 25% of the total parent education allocation. However, this year all non high needs families, prenatal to kindergarten entry, will be eligible for services. The DESE Invoice has been updated to reflect this change which will require programs to distinguish non high needs Prenatal to Three contacts from the non high needs Three to Kindergarten Entry contacts.

Another change that has been put in place includes the characteristics for identifying high needs families. You will notice on the Invoice that any family that meets one of the seventeen characteristics listed will be considered high needs and is eligible for services as a high needs family. We would like to continue to stress to programs that the goal is to serve those families who are in most need of the services.

PROPOSED AND FINAL EXPENDITURE REPORTS

We have been receiving phone calls regarding the Proposed and Final Expenditure Reports. At this time these reports are not functioning properly and will not be required. It is important for programs to continue to track the ECDA funds coming from the state and expending those funds on providing PAT services. Any unused ECDA funds must be carried over to the next year to be utilized only for PAT services.

PAYMENT AND ALLOCATION INFORMATION

Many of you have requested information regarding your current allocation for FY12 or payment information for FY11. We have now combined both the allocation and the payment information into one report which is now available through the Web Application System. You may access the report by clicking on the "Payment Information" link located on the PAT Main Menu. Once the report loads you must indicate the year, 2011 for last year or 2012 for this year. Then click the "Generate Report" button to load the information. Monthly payments will not be separated out by Parent Education and Screening for 2011 but will be for 2012.

ACCESS TO THE WEB APPLICATION

Anyone who does not have access to the Web Applications System as either an Authorized Representative or a Data Entry person may be given Public View Access. The Public View Access does not allow you to submit or enter information but does allow you to view specific information pertaining to your district. This access can be assigned at the district by the User Manager. We certainly appreciate everything that you and your staff do to provide high quality services for Missouri families. PAT has been through several changes over the last couple of years with funding and curriculum and we appreciate everyone's patience as we work through the changes. Thank you for all that you do.

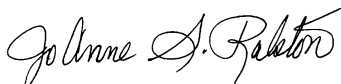
HEALTH, HEARING AND VISION TRAINING

Many parent educators are interested in the Health, Hearing and Vision Training that has been provided by the national office in the past. This year the training will be provided to programs through DESE. As soon as the dates get set we will be posting the information on the website and sending programs an update.

HEARING CHECKS

For those who have participated in training with the PAT national office, you may have heard the new requirement regarding the use of the OAE machine for hearing checks. This is not a DESE requirement at this time. DESE will continue to reimburse screening services using the noise makers and shakers that were previously approved. Again, the OAE machine is not required by DESE for reimbursement at this time.

Sincerely,



Jo Anne Ralston, Director
Early Learning, DESE