**Virginia Preschool Initiative**

 **Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program**

**FAQ**

Eligibility

1. *Are provisionally licensed Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) teachers eligible to receive grant funds?*

A provisionally licensed ECSE teacher, who is responsible for providing instruction as a part of his or her case load to one or more Virginia Preschool Initiative students, is eligible to receive grant funds.

1. *Are Head Start teachers eligible to receive grant funds?*

If the provisionally licensed Head Start teacher is the teacher of record for a blended preschool classroom that serves both VPI students and Head Start students the teacher is eligible to receive grant funds.

1. *Is a VPI teacher who is seeking to add a Special Education Early Childhood endorsement to his or her license eligible for grant funds?*

If the VPI teacher holding a full, active Virginia teaching license is also issued a provisional license while seeking a Special Education Early Childhood endorsement, this teacher is eligible to receive grant funds. For information on the specific requirements for a VPI teacher to obtain a provisional license with a Special Education Early Childhood endorsement, please speak with your school division’s teacher licensure specialist. If additional guidance is needed, please contact the school divisions’ assigned Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) licensure specialist within the Office of Licensure.

Grant Funds

1. *May a provisionally licensed VPI teacher who received grant funds from the Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program in 2018-2019 receive funds again in 2019-2020?*

Yes. A provisionally licensed VPI teacher who continues to complete required coursework to become fully licensed may receive grant funds in two consecutive years. This grant will cover tuition costs and associated fees incurred July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

1. *May a provisionally licensed VPI teacher receive reimbursement for costs associated with textbooks, travel to and from class, and materials and supplies required for classwork?*

No. Grant funds are to be used only for reimbursement of tuition for coursework and associated fees necessary to become fully licensed to teach young learners in a VPI setting. The school division may pay the tuition and fees directly to a University for the course(s) for the teacher’s benefit; or the teacher may pay the tuition/fees and be reimbursed by the school division. This grant will cover tuition/fee costs incurred July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

1. *What if the school division applies for and receives grant funds for a teacher who does not enroll in courses or complete the coursework agreed to when the application was submitted to the VDOE?*

Funds must be expended on actual tuition/fee costs. Any unexpended funds must be returned to the VDOE. If the school division later determines that the actual costs for the incentives were less than the total awarded in the Grant Award Notification, the difference must be returned to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) by Friday, June 5, 2020.  The refund check should be made payable to The Treasurer of Virginia and the memo section of the check should state “Refund of FY 2020 Virginia Preschool Initiative Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program overpayment.”