## Pay by Enrollment Provider Quick Guide: Getting Started

On July 15, 2024, Indiana will change to a Pay by Enrollment voucher model, which will reduce burdens on providers while enhancing the family experience. In the new model, providers will use a new portal to record child absences, rather than families using swipe cards to track their child's attendance. Absences will be tracked against an updated Excessive Absence policy of 45 days, which will increase time in care and ultimately improve child outcomes.

Please follow each step in this how-to guide to set up your account in the new portal and payment system.

# **Step 1:** Log in to your provider portal account. This portal is where you will track child absences.

Log into <u>I-LEAD</u>. If you are a new provider, you can <u>create an account</u> through Access Indiana.



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#### Don't have a provider portal account?

If you do not have a portal account, you will first need to set one up:

- 1. Refer to the email you received from OECOSL with your invitation to link your provider site. Call 1-800-299-1627 or visit <u>https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/ilead</u> if you did not receive the email.
- 2. Select the "Accept Invitation" button at the bottom of the email message.
- 3. Follow the prompts and fill out all required fields. At the end of the process, select the "Update Your Profile button in the bottom-right corner of the window.



#### Step 2: Determine how you will record child absences.

- By default, all providers are set up to submit data through the provider portal. If you plan to do so, no action is required, and you may continue to Step 3.
- If you are using a preferred Child Care Management System (CCMS) vendor (Alliance CORE powered by Early Learning Ventures, brightwheel, or Playground), you may choose to have absence data uploaded automatically from your CCMS. Please reference the 'Connecting your CCMS for Child Absence Tracking Guide' for more information about this process.

**Note:** you may begin automatically sharing attendance with the state's system through a CCMS connection **after** the first attendance period is submitted (which must be entered in the provider portal).

#### **Step 3:** Enter your program's closure dates.

- Providers are allowed 11 paid closures per year. After 11 paid closures have been recorded, only the Non-Paid-Closure option will be available.
- You may use non-paid closures at any time. You do not have to exhaust paid closure days first.
- Closures are not managed in the CCMS system like other attendance and absence data. Closures must be added in the provider portal.





2 To add a closure, enter a date in the "Date" field by manually typing the date, or, **CHILD CARE VOUCHER PROGRAM - PROVIDER PORTAL** clicking on the Calendar icon Service Period 04/07/2024 - 04/20/2024, due on 05/04/2024. Please enter and review absences for this service period and next to the field. Absences Home 3 CLOSURE DAYS Choose a closure type, from Provider: FY2999 the "Type" drop-down menu. Legal N KUuHG rtRm cility Name: Shanon's Super Kids Facility Type: Licensed Center 4 County: Marion m Date: MM/DD/YYYY Type: Select 'Add'. SAVED CLOSURES Paid 04 of 11 Calendar 2024 Non-Paid Closures: 02 Year: Closures: 5 Date Type A record for your specified 06/14/2024 PC closure will be added to the grid on this screen.

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To delete a closure, click the "**Delete**" button beside the closure's entry, then 'Yes' to confirm. You will only be able to delete closures that occur during service periods that have not been submitted. Once a service period has been submitted, a closure cannot be deleted.

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**Step 5:** Register with Rapid Financial Solutions (RFS)/Tyler Technologies to ensure you receive voucher payments in the new Pay by Enrollment model.





### Addressing and responding to family questions

- Encourage families to be on the lookout for an important letter in the mail to register for the new family portal. This letter will contain a "parent key" that families will need to link their case to their account.
- Accessing the parent portal is not required but can be a convenient place for families to track absences and voucher information.
- The <u>family FAQs</u> on the Pay by Enrollment webpage provide more information about what families can expect.

