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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
School District Finance Officers

**FROM:** Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations  
Jacob Oliva, Chancellor of Public Schools

**DATE:** June 16, 2021

**SUBJECT: Charter School Funding Under DOE Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-07**

This correspondence is a follow-up to the May 20, 2021, memorandum on Charter School Funding under DOE Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-07 (attached), and provides further guidance on charter school funding for the 2020-21 fiscal year. As directed by DOE Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-07, charter schools are funded in the same manner that the state funds districts with enrollment growth or decreases. The following summarizes funding for the spring and fall semesters.

**Fall Semester Funding**

All charter schools are funded based on projected FTE for the fall semester using the *2020-21 Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Second Calculation Charter School Revenue Estimating Workbook*. To estimate funding, enter the projected FTE into the workbook, and note that the workbook applies a proration from the FEFP Fourth Calculation. This proration is the statewide cost to fund FTE in excess of projected FTE for districts with FTE growth in the spring semester. The proration is applied to each district in proportion to its FEFP funding and reduces the statewide FEFP Fourth Calculation amount to the funding level of the appropriation. Because the workbook calculates funding for an entire year, users must manually divide the resulting funding calculation by two to reflect funding for only the fall semester.

Suzanne Pridgeon  
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations

### **Spring Semester Funding**

For a charter school with February survey FTE that is below projected FTE, the charter school's funding amount will be the same as calculated for the fall semester. Charter schools with February survey FTE that is greater than projected FTE are funded based on February survey FTE using the *2020-21 FEFP Fourth Calculation Charter School Revenue Estimating Workbook*. To estimate funding, enter the annualized February survey FTE into the workbook (note that the workbook again applies the proration from the FEFP Fourth Calculation). Because the workbook calculates funding for an entire year, the user must manually divide the resulting funding calculation by two to reflect funding for only the spring semester.

Please note the following excerpt from the attached May 20, 2021, memorandum regarding a review for reasonableness in calculating charter school funding based on projected FTE:

*There is one caveat to the general criteria for payment. If a charter school's actual enrollment is so far below the FTE forecast so as to make paying the school based on the FTE forecast unreasonable, the district and charter school should negotiate a reasonable number, based on all relevant factors including the charter school's operating costs. Thus, for example, it would be unreasonable for a charter school with actual enrollment of 11 students to receive funding for 58 students. Any difference between actual and forecasted enrollment of more than 20 percent should be reviewed to determine whether the funding is reasonable.*

If you have questions, please contact Josh Bemis, Educational Policy Director at 850-245-9126 or [Josh.Bemis@fldoe.org](mailto:Josh.Bemis@fldoe.org).

SP/JO/jb

Attachment