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6470.01 ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER AND CLAIMANT CERTIFICATION

The Board of Education permits the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to use standard electronic funds transfer (EFT) technologies for EFTs for payment of claims pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. and 5:31-4.1, implementing N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.

“Electronic funds transfer” for the purpose of Policy and Regulation 6470.01 means any approved method of transferring moneys permitted by N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. that does not involve the physical presentation of a paper check, draft, or similar paper instrument including, but not limited to, wire transfers, e-checks, automated clearing house (ACH) transfers, and transactions initiated by phone or fax.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.b.(1), the Board of Education authorizes the use of only the forms of standard EFT technologies that are approved to be used by a Board of Education for EFTs for payment of claims. A Board of Education may not utilize procurement cards, charge cards, charge accounts, or any payment services such as PayPal or Venmo.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5.b.(2), the Board designates the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as being responsible for the oversight and administration of the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5, N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.; N.J.A.C. 5:31-4.1, and Policy and Regulation 6470.01.

The Board of Education will only initiate and approve electronic funds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq. Standard EFT technologies shall incorporate, at a minimum, the features and safeguards outlined in N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4(a). The Board will only utilize standard EFT technologies upon instituting, at a minimum, the fiscal and operational controls outlined in N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.4(b).

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall initiate a claim for payment by presenting a claim that has been approved by the Board, to be paid using an EFT technology. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall submit the claim for payment with all supporting documentation to the Superintendent of Schools or a designee who is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, who shall review the claim for payment and authorize, in writing, the EFT claim using an EFT method.

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The Board of Education shall annually approve the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person authorized to initiate a claim for payment and the Superintendent of Schools or a designee not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the person responsible to review a claim for payment presented by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and authorize payment using an approved EFT method.

On no less than a weekly basis, activity reports on all transactions utilizing standard EFT technologies shall be reviewed by an individual designated and approved by the Board that is not under the direct supervision of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and is not empowered to initiate or authorize EFTs.

Claimant certification for a Board of Education shall be in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3 and rules promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Providers of Automated Clearing House (ACH) and wire transfer services must be financial institutions chartered by a State or Federal agency, with the further requirement that these financial institutions providing ACH and wire transfer services be covered under the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA), N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq.

EFTs through ACH must utilize Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) technology, which provide transaction related details including invoice numbers, pay dates, and other identifying information as appropriate for each transaction. The Board must approve an ACH Origination Agreement with the financial institution(s).

N.J.S.A. 18A:19-3

N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.5

N.J.A.C. 5:30-9A.1 et seq.

Adopted: December 2020