

Child Care

The Child Care section of the plan is effective on the date that it is approved by OCFS. The approval date for the Child Care section of the plan can be found on [the OCFS website](#).

Appendix K: Child Care Administration

- 1. Total Estimated Funds Available: \$32670217
- 2. Projected spending for FFY 2022–2023: \$7500000
- 3. Does your district have a contract or formal agreement with another organization to perform any of the following functions using the NYSCCBG?

| Function | Organization | Amount of Contract |
|---|--------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Subsidy eligibility screening | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Determining if legally-exempt providers meet OCFS-approved additional local standards | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Assistance in locating care | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Child care information systems | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Payment processing | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Other <i>Please specify function:</i> | | |

Appendix L: Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available

Listed below are the optional categories of eligible families that your district can include as part of its County Plan. Select any categories your district wants to serve using the NYSCCBG funds and describe any limitations associated with the category.

| Optional Categories | Option | Limitations |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Public Assistance (PA) families participating in an approved activity in addition to their required work activity. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | When the additional activity is appropriate and consistent with the parent/caretaker's self-sufficiency goals as documented in their individualized employability plan. |
| 2. PA families or families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child to be protected because the caretaker is: | | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | TA families actual treatment hours will be approved when treatment is required as part of their individualized employability plan. NPA families actual treatment hours will be approved when the need for treatment is documented. |
| b) homeless | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | The parent/caretaker must be involved in documented permanent housing search and other allowed activities under our current plan. |
| c) a victim of domestic violence and participating in an approved activity | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | When the additional activity is appropriate and consistent with the parent/caretaker's self-sufficiency goals as documented in their individualized employability plan. |
| d) in an emergency situation of short duration | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Allowed for households providing the emergency situation and the need for care is documented as essential. All parents/caretakers in the household must be unavailable to care for the child. |
| 3. Families with an open child protective services case when child care is needed to protect the child. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| 4. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child to be protected because the child's caretaker: | | |
| a) is physically or mentally incapacitated | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Allowed when the parent/caretaker provides a medical report that they are unable to care for their child(ren) 24/7. Circumstances of the continued need will be reviewed at recertification. |
| b) has family duties away from home | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Under unusual short term circumstances to be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Child Care Subsidy Unit Supervisor using the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid documentation of the need for care • The parent/caretaker cannot bring their child(ren) with them and has no formal resources available • The circumstance leading to the need are outside the parent/caretaker's control |
| 5. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child's caretaker to actively seek employment. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Seeking employment is limited to low income recipients of child care assistance and to families on TA when it is documented in their individualized employability plan, not exceeding three months. |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 6. PA families where a sanctioned parent or caretaker relative is participating in unsubsidized employment, earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount under law. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Parent/caretaker must be working a minimum of 10 hours per week. |
| 7. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child's caretaker to participate in: | | |
| a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| c) a program providing basic remedial education in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and oral communications for individuals functioning below the ninth month of the eighth-grade level | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| e) an English as a second language (ESL) instructional program designed to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing the English language for individuals whose primary language is other than English | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| f) a two-year full-time degree granting program at a community college, a two-year college, or an undergraduate college with a specific vocational goal leading to an associate's degree or certificate of completion | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| g) a training program, which has a specific occupational goal and is conducted by an institution other than a college or university that is licensed or approved by the State Education Department | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| h) a prevocational skill training program such as a basic education and literacy training program | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | |
| <p>Note: The caretaker must complete the selected programs listed within 30 consecutive calendar months. The caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p> | | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>8. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a two-year program other than one with a specific vocational sequence (leading to an associate's degree or certificate of completion and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker's earning capacity). The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p> | <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> | |
| <p>9. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a two-year college or university program (other than one with a specific vocational sequence) leading to an associate's degree or a certificate of completion that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker's earning capacity. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p> | <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> | |
| <p>10. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a four-year college or university program leading to a bachelor's degree and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker's earning capacity. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p> | <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> | |
| <p>11. Families with incomes up to the 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child's caretaker to participate in a program to train workers in an employment field that currently is or is likely to be in demand in the future, if the caretaker documents that he or she is a dislocated worker and is currently registered in such a program, provided that child care services are only used for the portion of the day the caretaker is able to document is directly related to the caretaker engaging in such a program.</p> | <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> | |

Appendix M #1: Reasonable Distance, Family Share,

Federal and Local Priorities

I. Reasonable Distance for Public Assistance Recipients to Travel to Child Care and Work

Define "reasonable distance" based on community standards for determining accessible child care.

1. The following defines "reasonable distance":

The total travel time between the provider and work would not exceed one (1) hour each way with child care drop-off and pick-up times included. A TA recipient will not be required to travel more than one hour to find child care.

2. Describe any steps / consultations made to arrive at your definition:

The one (1) hour reasonable distance rule is based on the availability and schedules of public transportation in Albany County and in consultation with parent/caretakers.

II. Family Share

"Family Share" is the weekly amount paid towards the costs of the child care services by the child's parent or caretaker. Your district must select a family share percentage from 1% to 10% to use in calculating the amount of family share. The weekly family share of child care costs is calculated by applying the family share percentage against the amount of the family's annual gross income that is in excess of the State Income Standard divided by 52.

Note: The family share percentage selected here must match the percentage entered in the Program Matrix in the Welfare Management System (WMS) and the Child Care Time and Attendance (CCTA) system.

Family Share Percentage selected by the district:

1%

Additional Description of this Family Share Percentage:

III. Federal and Local Priorities

1. The district must rank the federally mandated priorities. Cases that are ranked 1 have the highest priority for receiving child care assistance. These rankings apply to case closings and case openings.

a. Very low income (200% State Income Standard):

Rank 1

Rank 2

Rank 3

b. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard who have a child with special needs and a need for child care:

Rank 1

Rank 2

Rank 3

c. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are experiencing homelessness:

Rank 1

Rank 2

Rank 3

2. Does the district have local priorities?

Yes

No

If yes, list them below and rank beginning with Rank 4.

4. Families with ill or incapacitated parents/caretakers who are unable to provide care to their child(ren) 24/7.

5. Teen parents that need child care assistance to enable them to attend high school or an equivalency program.

Appendix M #2: Case Openings, Case Closings, and Waiting List

I. Case Openings When Funds Are Limited

If a social services district does not have sufficient funds to provide child care services to all families who are applying, the district may decide to open certain categories of families as funds become available. The district must open federal priorities first. If the district identified local priorities, they must be opened next. **After the federal and local priorities**, identify the basis upon which the district will open cases if funds become available. Select one of the options listed below and describe the process for opening.

- 1. Open cases based on **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**.
- 2. Open cases based on **INCOME**.
- 3. Open cases based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.
- 4. Open cases based on **INCOME AND CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.
- 5. Open cases based on **OTHER CRITERIA**.

II. Title XX Case Closings When Sufficient Funds Are Not Available

- The district **does not use** Title XX funds for child care assistance.
- The district **uses** Title XX funds for child care assistance (this option must be checked in Appendix N and Appendix P must be completed).

III. Waiting List

The district will establish a waiting list when there are not sufficient funds to open all eligible cases.

- Yes No

The district will establish a waiting list when there are not sufficient Title XX funds available to open new cases or keep all current cases open.

Yes No

Appendix M #3: Fraud and Abuse Control Activities and Inspections

I. Fraud and Abuse Control Activities

1. Describe below the criteria the district will use to determine which child care subsidy applications suggest a higher than acceptable risk for fraudulent or erroneous child care subsidy payments in addition to procedures for referring such applications to the district's front-end detection system.

We will follow criteria as established under the state Front End Detection System (FEDS) mandate and other optional indicators as guidance to identify possible instances of fraud. These indicators include:

- financial obligations are current, but stated expenses exceed income without a reasonable explanation
- working off the books (currently or previously)
- supported by loans or gifts from family/friends
- self-employment with no adequate business records to support financial assertions
- no documentation to verify identity or documentation of identity is questionable
- documentation or information provided is inconsistent with the application, i.e.: different names used for signature, invalid Social Security number
- Post Office box used as a mailing address without a reasonable explanation, i.e.: high crime area
- prior history of denial, case closing or overpayments resulting from an investigation
- application is inconsistent with prior case information
- no absent parent information or information is inconsistent with the application of previous applications

Cases having any of the state mandated or optional indicators will be referred via the Agency's existing FEDS referral process. This Agency's Fraud staff will, as deemed appropriate, investigate by conducting home visits and/or office interviews. Outcomes in all FED's referrals will be reported back to the Child Care Subsidy staff prior to the case opening. Based on the investigator's findings, the Child Care Subsidy worker will determine eligibility.

2. Describe the sampling methodology used to determine which cases will require verification of an applicant's or recipient's continued need for child care, including, as applicable, verification of participation in employment, education, or other required activities.

The district cannot use criteria such as the age of provider, the gender of provider, a post office box address, or evidence that the child lives in the same residence as the provider as indicators in drawing the sample.

A sampling of all cases in receipt of child care subsidy will be reviewed for actual hours of engagement compared to the actual hours billed by the child care providers. The sample will be based on the current unduplicated caseload. To comply with a statistically valid and representative sampling each month we will select 25 cases randomly (300 cases annually) to be reviewed in this area.

3. Describe the sampling methodology used to determine which providers of subsidized child care services will be reviewed for the purpose of comparing the child care provider's attendance forms for children

receiving subsidized child care services with any Child and Adult Care Food Program inspection forms to verify that child care was actually provided on the days listed on the attendance forms.

We will select a sampling from our district child care providers for comparison of inspection forms for providers enrolled in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to the actual attendance billing forms in order to verify consistency that the children reported in care under the CACFP were billed appropriately for subsidy. The providers selected for the sample will be based on the current total of all providers participating in the CACFP which is presently 47. To achieve a statistically valid and representative sampling we will select 50 children annually to be reviewed in this area.

II. Inspections of Child Care Provider Records and Premises

The district may choose to make announced or unannounced inspections of the records and premises of any provider/program that provides child care for subsidized children to determine if the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the social services district per 18 NYCRR §415.4(h)(3).

The district has the right to make inspections *prior to subsidized children receiving care* of any child care provider, including care in a home, to determine whether the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the district.

The district must report violations of regulations as follows:

1. Violations by a licensed or registered child care provider must be reported to the applicable Office of Children and Families (OCFS) Regional Office.
2. Violations by an enrolled or enrolling legally-exempt child care provider must be reported to the applicable Enrollment Agency.

Does the district choose to make inspections of such child care providers/programs?

- No.
- Yes. Provide the details of your inspections plan below.

Check the organization that will be responsible for conducting inspections:

- Local social services staff

Provide the name of the unit and contact person:

Albany County Welfare Fraud Unit, Sean Hicks, Supervising Fraud Investigator

- Contracted Agency *(must correspond to Appendix K, Question 3f)*

Provide the name of the agency and contact person:

The following types of subsidized child care providers/programs are subject to this requirement:

- Legally-Exempt Child Care**
- In-Home
 - Family Child Care
 - Group programs not operating under the auspices of another government agency
 - Group programs operating under the auspices of another government agency

- Licensed or Registered Child Care**
 - Family Day Care
 - Registered School-Age Child Care
 - Group Family Day Care
 - Day Care Centers
 - Small Day Care Centers

Appendix N: District Options

Districts have some flexibility to administer their child care subsidy programs to meet local needs. Districts must complete Question I below. Note that all districts must complete the differential payment rate table in Appendix T.

I. The district selects:

- None of the options below
- One or more of the options below

II. Districts must check the options that will be included in the district's county plan and complete the appropriate appendix for any option checked below.

- 1. The district has chosen to establish funding set-asides for NYSCCBG (complete Appendix O).
- 2. The district has chosen to use Title XX funds for the provision of child care services (complete Appendix P).
- 3. The district has chosen to establish additional local standards for child care providers (complete Appendix Q).
- 4. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for more than 24 absences (complete Appendix R).
- 5. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for program closures (complete Appendix S).
- 6. The district has chosen to pay for transportation to and from a child care provider (complete Appendix T).
- 7. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate for licensed or registered child care providers that have been accredited by a nationally recognized child care organization (complete Appendix T).
- 8. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate above the required 5% minimum differential rate for child care services during non-traditional hours (complete Appendix T).
- 9. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate for **licensed / registered** child care providers caring for children experiencing homelessness above the 5% required minimum differential rate (complete Appendix T).

- 10. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate for **legally-exempt** child care providers caring for children experiencing homelessness (complete Appendix T).
- 11. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate in excess of the 25% maximum differential rate for child care providers that qualify for multiple differential rates to allow sufficient access to child care providers or services within the district (complete Appendix T).
- 12. The district has chosen to pay up to 75% of the enhanced market rate for legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who have completed 10 hours of training, which has been verified by the Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency (complete Appendix T).
- 13. The district has chosen to pay an enhanced market rate for eligible legally-exempt group child care programs that meet required health and/or training requirements (complete Appendix T).
- 14. The district has chosen to expand eligibility for child care assistance beyond the requirements of SSL 410-w(9), in order to allow a parent or caretaker who works non-traditional hours to sleep (complete Appendix T).
- 15. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services exceeding 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix U).
- 16. The district has chosen to include 18-, 19- or 20-year-olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix U).
- 17. The district requests a waiver from one or more regulatory provisions. Waivers are limited to those regulatory standards that are not specifically included in law (complete Appendix U).
- 18. The district has chosen to use local equivalent(s) of OCFS required form(s). Prior to using a local equivalent form the district must obtain OCFS, Division of Child Care Services (DCCS) written approval. **Any previous approvals for local equivalent forms will not be carried forward into this county plan. Therefore, any local equivalent forms a district wishes to establish or renew must be included in this plan and will be subject to review and approval by OCFS.**
 - List below the names and upload copies of the local equivalent form(s) that the district would like to use.
- 19. The district elects to use the OCFS-6025, Application for Child Care Assistance. The local district may add the district name and contact information to the form.

Appendix O: Funding Set-Asides

I. Total NYSCCBG Block Grant Amount, Including Local Funds

| Category | Amount |
|----------|--------|
| | \$ |
| | \$ |
| | \$ |

\$

\$

Total Set-Asides (NYSCCBG):

\$

Describe the rationale behind specific set-aside amounts from the NYSCCBG (e.g., estimated number of children) for each category.

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

II. The following amounts are set aside for specific priorities from the Title XX block grant:

| Category | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| | \$ |
| | \$ |
| | \$ |
| Total Set-Asides (Title XX): | \$ |

Describe the rationale behind specific amounts set aside from the Title XX block grant (e.g., estimated number of children) for each category.

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Appendix P: Title XX Child Care

1. Enter the projected total of Title XX expenditures for the plan's duration: \$

Indicate the financial eligibility limits (percentage of State Income Standard) your district will apply based on family size. Maximum reimbursable limits are 275% for a family of one or two, 255% for a family of three, and 225% for a family of four or more. Districts that are utilizing Title XX funds only for child protective and/or preventive child care services must not enter financial eligibility limits as these services are offered without regard to income.

| Family Size | Eligibility Limit |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Two People | % |
| Three People | % |
| Four People | % |

2. Programmatic Eligibility for Income Eligible Families (check all that apply)

- Employment
- Seeking employment
- Homelessness
- Education / training
- Illness / incapacity
- Domestic violence

- Emergency situation of short duration
- Participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program

3. Does the district apply any limitations to the programmatic eligibility criteria?

- Yes
- No

If yes, describe eligibility criteria:

4. Does the district prioritize certain eligible families for Title XX funding?

- Yes
- No

If yes, describe which families will receive priority:

5. Does the district use Title XX funds for child care for open child protective services cases?

- Yes
- No

6. Does the district use Title XX funds for child care for open child preventive services cases?

- Yes
- No

Appendix Q: Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers

The district may propose local standards in addition to the State standards for legally-exempt providers who will receive child care subsidies issued by the district. This appendix must be completed for **each** additional local standard that the district wants to implement.

The district must coordinate with the local Enrollment Agency, including, but not limited to:

- Informing the Enrollment Agency of the intent to request an additional standard.
- Developing the stepwise process referenced in Question 5.
- Ensuring that no significant burden of work shall be incurred by the Enrollment Agency as a result of the additional local standard, unless such work is addressed in a separate contract or a formal agreement is in place, which are referenced in Question 3.
- Sharing any consent / release form that may be required.
- Keeping the Enrollment Agency informed of the approval status.

1. Select the additional local standard that will be required of child care providers / programs.

- Verification, using the district's local records, that the provider has given the caretaker complete and accurate information regarding any report of child abuse or maltreatment in which he or she is named as an indicated subject *(only applies to legally exempt relative-only family child care and relative only in-home child care)*
- Local criminal background check *(only applies to legally exempt relative-only family child care and relative only in-home child care)*
- Require providers caring for subsidized children for 30 or more hours a week participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) *(only applies to family child care programs)*
Note that districts are required to notify the Enrollment Agency, using the OCFS-2114, District Notification to Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency, of all providers on the referral list for whom the requirement is "not applicable."
- Site visits by the district
- Other
Please describe:

2. Check below the type of child care program to which the additional local standard will apply and indicate the roles of the persons to whom it will apply in cases where the standard is person-specific.

- Legally-exempt relative-only family child care program
 - Provider
 - Provider's employee
 - Provider's volunteer
 - Provider's household member age 18 or older
- Legally-exempt relative-only in-home child care program
 - Provider
 - Provider's employee
 - Provider's volunteer
- Legally-exempt family child care program
 - Provider
 - Provider's employee
 - Provider's volunteer
 - Provider's household member age 18 or older
- Legally-exempt in-home child care program
 - Provider
 - Provider's employee

Provider's volunteer

Legally-exempt group program

Director

Employee

Volunteer

2a. Exceptions: There may be instances when the district may be unable to enact the additional standard, such as, the applicable person may reside outside of the district's jurisdiction, or the site of care may not be located within the district. In such cases, the district may create an exception to the applicability stated above.

Note: The Child Care Facility System cannot track such exceptions and, therefore, the district remains responsible for notifying the applicable Enrollment Agency, using the OCFS-2114, District Notification to Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency, that an additional standard is "not applicable" to the specific provider / person named on the referral list.

Place a check mark below to show any exception to the applicability of this Local Additional Standard to programs or roles previously identified.

a. The district will not apply this additional local standard when the applicable person **resides** outside of the subsidy-paying district.

b. The district will not apply this additional local standard when the **program's site of care is located outside** of the subsidy-paying district.

3. Districts are responsible for implementation of the additional local standard unless they have a formal agreement or contract with another organization. Check the organization that will be responsible for the implementation of the additional local standard.

Local social services staff
Provide the name of the unit and contact person:

Contracted agency
Provide the name of the agency and contact person:

4. Are there any fees or other costs associated with the additional local standard?

Yes

No

Note: Costs associated with the additional local standard cannot be passed on to the provider.

5. Describe, in chronological order, the steps for conducting the additional local standard. Include how the district will retrieve referrals from CCFS, communicate with providers and other applicable persons, determine compliance with the additional local standard, inform the Enrollment Agency whether the additional local standard has been "met," "not met," or is "not applicable" and monitor its timeliness. Include all agencies involved and their roles. Note that the district's procedures must be in accordance with 12-OCFS-LCM-01.

6. Indicate how frequently the additional local standard will be applied.

The Standard will be applied (check all that apply):

- At initial enrollment and re-opening
- At each re-enrollment
- During the enrollment **review** period

7. Describe the justification for the additional local standard in the space below.

Appendix R: Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences

1. Our district will only pay for additional absences to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent.

- Yes
- No

2. The following providers are eligible for payment for additional absences (check all that are eligible):

- Day care center
- Group family day care
- Family day care
- Informal child care
- Legally-exempt group
- School-age child care

3. Number of additional absences above the required 24 allowed per child per provider per year:

56

4. List any limitations on reasons for additional absences for which the district will allow payment:

- a child who did not begin care on the date authorized by Albany County is not considered "absent" and will not be paid for
- the district will not consider a child "absent" if the program is not open and providing care
- payments will only be made for days on which the parent/caretaker is scheduled to work or attend an approved program
- if a child was removed from care by the parent/caretaker without notice, absences will not be paid
- vacation of the parent/caretaker is limited to 5 absences per period
- a child absent for more than 5 consecutive days will only be paid for 5 absences

5. List any other limitations on the above providers' eligibility for payment for additional absences:

Appendix S: Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures

1. The following providers are eligible for payment for program closures:

- Day care center
- Group family day care
- Family day care
- Legally-exempt group
- School-age child care

2. The district will only pay for program closures to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent.

- Yes
- No

3. Enter the number of days allowed for program closures (maximum allowable time for program closures is five days):

5

4. List the allowable program closures for which the district will provide payment.

- Extenuating circumstances beyond the provider's control, such as a natural disaster, severe weather and/or a documented emergency other than a regulatory violation that necessitates a closing
- State, federal and/or nationally recognized holidays

Note: Legally-exempt family child care and in-home child care providers are not allowed to be reimbursed for program closures.

Appendix T: Transportation, Differential Payment

Rates, Enhanced Market Rates for Legally-Exempt Providers, and Sleep

I. Transportation

1. Are there circumstances where the district will reimburse for transportation?

- No
 Yes

2. If the district will reimburse for transportation, describe any circumstances and limitations the district will use to reimburse. Include what type of transportation will be reimbursed (public and/or private) and how much your district will pay (per mile or trip). Note that if the district is paying for transportation, the Program Matrix in the Welfare Management System (WMS) should reflect this choice.

II. Differential Payment Rates

1. Districts must complete the Differential Payment Rate Percent (%) column in the table below for each of the four (4) differential payment rate categories. For the two (2) categories that require a state minimum five percent (5%) differential payment rate, the district must enter "5%" or, if it chooses, a higher rate up to 15%.

The other two (2) differential payment rate categories in the table below are optional. If the district chooses not to set differential payment rates, the district must enter zero. If the district chooses to set a differential payment rate, enter the appropriate percentage up to 15 percent (15%). Note that if the district selects a differential payment rate for nationally accredited programs, then that rate must be in the range of five percent (5%) to 15 percent (15%).

| Differential Payment Rate Category | Differential Payment Rate Percent | Instructions |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Homelessness: Licensed and Registered Providers State required minimum of 5% | 5% | Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. <i>(Must enter at least 5%)</i> |
| Homelessness: Legally-Exempt Providers | 0% | Enter 0% or a percentage (%) up to 15%. |
| Non-traditional Hours: All Providers State required minimum of 5% | 10% | Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. <i>(Must enter at least 5%)</i> |
| Nationally Accredited Programs: Licensed and Registered Providers <i>Legally-exempt child care providers are not eligible for a differential payment rate for accreditation.</i> | 10% | Enter 0% or a percentage (%) from 5% to 15%. |

2. Generally, differential payment rates may not exceed 25% above the applicable market rate or actual cost of care. However, a district may request a waiver from the Office to establish a payment rate that is in excess of 25% above the applicable market rate upon showing that the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access within the district to child care providers or services that offer care addressing more than one of the differential payment rate categories. However, if your district wants to establish a payment rate that is more than 25% above the applicable market rate, describe below why the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access to such child care providers or services.

III. Increased Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Child Care Providers

1. The enhanced market rate for legally-exempt family and legally-exempt in-home child care providers who have completed 10 or more hours of training annually is a 70% differential applied to the market rates established for registered family day care. Indicate if the district is electing to establish a payment rate that is in excess of the enhanced market rate for legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who have completed 10 or more hours of training annually and the training has been verified by the legally-exempt caregiver enrollment agency.

- No
 Yes

2. If yes, indicate the percent (71%–75%), not to exceed 75% of the child care market rate established for registered family day care.

%

IV. Enhanced Market Rates for Legally-Exempt Group Child Care Programs

Answer both questions:

1. Indicate if the district is electing to establish an enhanced market rate for child care services provided by legally-exempt group child care programs that have prepared an approved health care plan and have at least one caregiver in each classroom with age appropriate cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification and the enhanced requirements have been verified by the enrollment agency.

- No
 Yes

If yes, indicate the percent (76%–81%), not to exceed 81% of the applicable market rate for day care centers.

%

2. Indicate if the district is electing to establish an enhanced market rate for child care services provided by legally-exempt group child care programs when, in addition to the training required in 18 NYCRR §415.13, the director has completed an approved course and a minimum of 15 hours of approved training annually and each employee with a caregiving role completes a minimum of 5 hours of approved training annually and the enhanced requirements have been verified by the enrollment agency.

- No
 Yes

If yes, indicate the percent (76%–81%), not to exceed 81% of the applicable market rate for day care centers.

%

If a district chooses to establish both legally-exempt group child care enhanced rates and a program is eligible for both enhanced rates, then the enhanced market rate must be based on the percentages selected for each individual market rate, up to a maximum of 87%.

V. Sleep

In accordance with SSL 410-w(9), up to eight hours of additional child care assistance must be authorized for all eligible children in a family, as needed, in order to allow a parent or caretaker to sleep, if the parent or caretaker works non-traditional hours, is eligible for and provided with child care assistance, and has a

child under the age of six and not in school for a full day.

If the district chooses to expand eligibility for child care assistance beyond the requirements of SSL 410-w(9), in order to allow a parent or caretaker who works non-traditional hours to sleep, please describe below:

Appendix U: Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, and Waivers

I. Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours

1. Child care services may exceed 24 consecutive hours when such services are provided on a short-term emergency basis or in other situations where the caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis. Check below under what circumstances the district will pay for child care exceeding 24 hours.

- On a short-term emergency basis
- The caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis

2. Describe any limitations on the payment of child care services that exceed 24 consecutive hours.

II. Child Care Services Unit (CCSU)

1. Indicate below if your district will include 18-, 19-, or 20-year-olds in the CCSU for determining family size and countable family income.

a. The district will include the following in the CCSU (check all that apply)

- 18-year-olds
- 19-year-olds
- 20-year-olds

OR

b. The district will only include the following in the CCSU when it will benefit the family (check all that apply)

- 18-year-olds
- 19-year-olds
- 20-year-olds

2. Describe the criteria your district will use to determine whether or not 18-, 19-, or 20-year olds are included in the CCSU.

This will be determined by budget and family choice.

III. Waivers

1. Districts have the authority to request a waiver of any regulatory provision that is non-statutory. The waiver must be approved by OCFS before it can be implemented. Describe and justify why your district is requesting a waiver.