

SCHENECTADY COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX K #1
Child Care Amendments

Is your district amending its Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) or Annual Plan Update (APU)?

Yes (Check “Yes” or “No” for each Appendix listed below to indicate whether or not there was an amendment to that Appendix. If the Appendix was amended, check “Yes” or “No” to indicate the section that was amended.)

No (If this box is checked, no further action is needed on this Appendix)

Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix K #2 - Child Care Administration</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix L – Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix M #1 - Reasonable Distance, Recertification Period, Family Share, Very Low Income, Federal and Local Priorities (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you’ve checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Reasonable Distance <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Recertification Period <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Family Share <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Very Low Income <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>V. Federal and Local Priorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

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Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix M #2 – Case Openings, Case Closings, and Waiting List (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Case Openings <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Case Closings <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Waiting List <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix M #3 – Fraud and Abuse Control Activities and Inspections (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Fraud and Abuse Control Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Inspections <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix N – District Options (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix O – Funding Set-Asides (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix P – Title XX Child Care (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix Q - Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

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Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix R – Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix S – Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix T – Transportation, Differential Payment Rates, Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers, and Sleep (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Differential Payment Rates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Sleep <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix U – Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, Waivers, and Breaks in Activities (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Child Care Services Unit <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Waivers <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Breaks in Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

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APPENDIX K #2
Child Care Administration

I. Describe how your district is organized to administer the child care program, including any functions that are subcontracted to an outside agency.

1. Identify the unit that has primary responsibility for the administration of child care for:

- a.** Public Assistance Families: Temporary Assistance Unit
- b.** Transitioning Families: Temporary Assistance Unit will transfer transitioning family to Daycare/Eligibility Unit
- c.** Income Eligible Families: Daycare/Eligibility Unit
- d.** Title XX: Daycare/Eligibility Unit

2. Provide the following information on the use of New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG) Funds.

- a.** FFY 2015-2016 Rollover funds (available from the NYSCCBG ceiling report in the claiming system)\$ 0.00
- b.** Estimate FFY 2016-2017 Rollover Funds\$ 0.00
- c.** Estimate of Flexible Funds for Family Services transferred to the NYSCCBG\$ 0.00
- d.** NYSCCBG Allocation 2017.....\$ 5,406,752.00
- e.** Estimate of Local Share\$ 228,165.00
- Total Estimated NYSCCBG Amount**\$ 5,634,917.00
- f.** Subsidy\$ 0.00
- g.** Other program costs excluding subsidy\$ 0.00
- h.** Administrative costs\$ 100,000.00

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

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APPENDIX L

Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available (Required)

I. 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
<p>1. Public Assistance (PA) families participating in an approved activity in addition to their required work activity.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>As determined by the independent employment plan completed by SJTA.</p>
<p>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:</p> <p>a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program</p> <p>b) homeless</p> <p>c) a victim of domestic violence and participating in an approved activity</p> <p>d) in an emergency situation of short duration</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Open child welfare cases only</p> <p>If working</p> <p>If working</p> <p>Short term medical problems if the case is open as child protective</p>
<p>3. Families with an open child protective services case when child care is needed to protect the child.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>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:</p>		
<p>a) is physically or mentally incapacitated</p> <p>b) has family duties away from home</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Open child welfare protective case only</p> <p>Under unusual short term circumstances to be determined on a case by case basis by the Director of Services or Commissioner; using the following criteria: duration limited to one month; no informal resources exist; the circumstances leading to</p>

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Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
		the situation are outside the caregiver's control.
<p>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 for a period up to six months. Child care services will be available only for the portion of the day the family is able to document is directly related to the caretaker engaging in such activities.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Authorized on a part time basis for up to 30 days with documented proof of active job search. May be extended for up to six months for extenuating circumstances with documentation. Criteria to be used for extenuating circumstances include: the county unemployment rate exceeds the state average by two percentage points; the applicant can demonstrate an active but unsuccessful job search.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>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:</p> <p>a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district</p> <p>b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is also employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week. Under no circumstance will the daycare be approved for more than full-time daycare.</p> <p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week. Under no circumstance with the daycare be approved for more than full-time daycare; and possesses documentation that he/she will take the GED test within 12</p>

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Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
		months of starting the program.
<p>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</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment 25 hours per week and has documentation indicating that the individual is attending consistently, making satisfactory progress, and if not a high school graduate, the individual must be prepared to take the GED test within 12 months of starting the program. Total hours may never exceed equivalent of full time hours.</p>
<p>d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment.</p>
<p>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</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment 25 hours per week and has documentation indicating that the individual is attending consistently, making satisfactory progress, and if not a high school graduate, the individual must be prepared to take the GED test within 12 months of starting the program.</p>
<p>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</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the applicant is a recent high school graduate or received a GED (within the last two years) and all previous work experience is part time (less than 25 hours per week); and maintains a 2.5 GPA; and</p>

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Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<p>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</p> <p>h) a prevocational skill training program such as a basic education and literacy training program</p> <p>i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor</p> <p>Note: The caretaker must complete the selected programs listed under Section 7 above within 30 consecutive calendar months. The caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>must complete the program within 24 months.</p> <p>If the parent is also employed a minimum of 25 hours per week, can document consistent attendance, maintains a 2.5 GPA and completes the program within 12 months.</p> <p>If the parent is also employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week, can document consistent attendance, maintains a 2.5 GPA and completes the program within 12 months.</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) as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

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Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.		
<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 as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

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APPENDIX M #1

Reasonable Distance, Recertification Period, Family Share, Very Low Income, Federal and Local Priorities (Required)

I. Reasonable Distance

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

1. The following defines “reasonable distance”: For eligible recipients using their own vehicle or public transportation, reasonable distance shall not exceed one hour going one way from home to the day care provider and then the employer. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis.
2. Describe any steps/consultations made to arrive at your definition: Historical availability of day care providers, employment opportunities and public transportation available in the Capital Region.

II. Recertification Period

The district’s recertification period for low income child care cases is every (select one):

- six months twelve months

III. 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 10% to 35% 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.

Family Share Percentage selected by the district 35%.

Note: *The family share percentage selected here must match the percentage entered in the Program Matrix in the Welfare Management System (WMS).*

IV. Very Low Income

Define “very low income” as it is used in determining priorities for child care benefits.

“Very Low Income” is defined as 125% of the State Income Standard.

V. 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 as defined in Section IV: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3
 - b. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard that have a child with special needs and a need for child care: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3
 - c. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard that are experiencing homelessness: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3
2. Does the district have local priorities?

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Yes No

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

- #4 Families whose income is at or below 125% of the State Income Standard
 #5 Families whose income is between 150%-126% of the State Income Standard
 #6 Families with incomes between 175%-151% of the State Income Standard
 #7 Families with incomes between 200%-176% of the State Income Standard

APPENDIX M #2

Case Openings, Case Closings, and Waiting List (Required)

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. Check only **ONE** of the options listed below and describe the process for opening.

1. Open based on **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**.
2. Open based on **INCOME**. Check one of the boxes below:
 - The district will open cases starting from the lowest income to the highest income.
 - The district will open cases based on income bands, starting from the lowest income band to the highest income band. List the income bands, starting from the band that will be opened first:

Families whose income is at or below 125% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is between 150%-126% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is between 175%-151% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is between 200%-176% of the State Income Standard

3. Open based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.
 List below the remaining category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(2) and 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(3) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be opened first.
4. Open based on **INCOME AND CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.
 List below the incomes (from lowest to highest income) or income bands (from lowest income band to highest income band), and the remaining category 2 and 3 families

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included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(2) and 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(3) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be opened first.

5. Open based on **OTHER CRITERIA**.

Describe the criteria the district will use to select cases to be opened:

II. Case Closings When Sufficient Funds Are Not Available

If a social services district does not have sufficient funds to continue to provide child care assistance to all families in its current caseload, the district may decide to discontinue child care assistance to certain categories of families. The district must close federal priorities last. If the district identified local priorities, they must be closed next to last. **After the federal and local priorities**, describe the basis upon which the district will close cases if sufficient funds are not available.

If no priorities are established beyond the federally mandated priorities and all funds are committed, case closings for families that are not eligible under a child care guarantee and are not under a federally mandated priority must be based on the length of time they have received services (must choose #1 below).

Check only **one** of the options for closing listed below and describe the process for closing.

1. Close based on **AMOUNT OF TIME** receiving child care services.

Check **one** of the boxes below:

The district will close cases starting from the shortest time receiving child care services to the longest time.

The district will close cases starting from the longest time receiving child care services to the shortest time.

2. Close based on **INCOME**.

Check **one** of the boxes below:

The district will close cases starting from the highest income to the lowest income.

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- The district will close cases based on income bands, starting from the highest income band to the lowest income band. List the income bands starting from the band that will be closed first:

Families with incomes between 200%-176% of the State Income Standard

Families with incomes between 175%-151% of the State Income Standard

Families with incomes between 150%-126% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is at or below 125% of the State Income Standard

3. Close based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List the category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be closed.

4. Close based on **INCOME AND CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List below the incomes (from the highest to lowest income) or income bands (from the highest income band to the lowest income band), and the category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be closed.

5. Close based on **OTHER CRITERIA**.

Describe the criteria the district will use to select cases to be closed:

III. Waiting List

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

No.

Yes.

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APPENDIX M #3

Fraud and Abuse Control Activities and Inspections (Required)

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.

Prior fraud

Documents/information inconsistent with application

Children with no birth certificates

Post office box for mailing address

No information on missing parent

Termination of employment

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.

At the re-certification the eligibility worker matches the hours on the authorizations to the bills. Verifications are solicited from employers and programs; discrepancies are referred to the Fraud Unit.

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.

The Department's process for this is that the Food Program makes phone calls to the Eligibility Unit and asks for information about the number of children authorized to be in the providers' care. Any inconsistencies reported to the eligibility worker/supervisor are referred to the Fraud Unit. The Eligibility Unit will review all referrals from the Food Program.

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 for the purpose of determining whether 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.

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The district must report violations of regulations as follows:

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

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

No.

Yes. Provide the details of your inspections plan below.

a. 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

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APPENDIX N

District Options (Required)

- I.** Districts have some flexibility to administer their child care subsidy programs to meet local needs. Districts must complete Question 1 below. Note that all districts must complete the differential payment rate table in Appendix T.
1. The district selects (check one):
- 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 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 up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates 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%, up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates for child care services during non-traditional hours (complete Appendix T).
 9. The district has chosen to pay a differential rate for child care providers caring for children experiencing homelessness above the required differential amount (complete Appendix T).
 10. 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).
 11. The district has chosen to pay for child care services while a caretaker who works the second or third shift sleeps (complete Appendix T).
 12. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services exceeding 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix U).

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13. The district has chosen to include 18-, 19- or 20-year-olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix U).
14. 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).
15. The district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non-public assistance families). Complete Appendix U.
16. 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.***

If the district elects to use the OCFS-6025, *Application for Child Care Assistance*, and makes no changes other than adding the district name and contact information, the district only needs to inform OCFS DCCS that it will be using the OCFS-6025.

List below the names and attach copies of the local equivalent form(s) that the district would like to use.

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APPENDIX O
Funding Set-Asides (Optional)

I. Total NYSCCBG Block Grant Amount, Including Local Funds

Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$

Total Set-Asides (NYSCCBG)\$

1. 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:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$

Total Set-Asides (Title XX).....\$

1. 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:

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APPENDIX P

Title XX Child Care (Optional)

1. Enter the projected total of Title XX expenditures for the plan's duration: \$1,540,080.00

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: (2) 200% (3) 200% (4) 200%

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

Title XX: employment education/training
 seeking employment illness/incapacity
 homelessness 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

(See Technical Assistance #1 for information on limiting eligibility.)

If yes, describe eligibility criteria: In many of the categories it is required that the family be an open child protective case.

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

Yes No

If yes, describe which families will receive priority: Those families open as child protective or preventive cases exhibiting health and safety concerns.

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

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APPENDIX Q

Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers (Optional)

I. 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.

4. 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. Check or describe in the space provided below the additional local standards 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
- Local criminal background check
- Require providers caring for subsidized children for 30 or more hours a week participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). *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 family child care program. Check all that apply.
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider's Employee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider's Volunteer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider's household member age 18 or older | | |
- Legally-exempt in-home child care program. Check all that apply.
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider's Employee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provider's Volunteer |
|--|---|--|
- Legally-exempt group provider/program not operating under the auspices of another government agency. Check all that apply.
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provider/Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider's Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider's Volunteer |
|--|--|---|
- Legally-exempt group provider/program operating under the auspices of another government or tribal agency. Check all that apply.
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provider/Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider's Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Provider's Volunteer |
|--|--|---|

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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.
- c. The district will not apply this additional local standard when *the informal provider is younger than 18 years* of age.

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: Jean Nicholas, Supervisor A, Child Protective Unit

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.

The individuals specified in question #2 above will be asked to sign an authorization which will allow the Schenectady County Department of Social Services

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(DSS) to conduct a check of the local child welfare records related to the child care attestations for the sole purpose of verifying the accuracy of the information submitted to the parent/caretaker per 18 NYCRR(f)(7)(ii). If the individual specified in question #2 above refuses to sign the authorization, the enrollment package will be considered incomplete and the enrollment process cannot move forward and will be withdrawn by the enrollment agency in accordance with State policy.

To initiate the additional standards check, per 12-OCFS-LCM-01, the Child Care Facility System will automatically generate the E-Notice, LE-CCFS LD-003 Legally-Exempt Additional Standard Referral Notification, to inform the local district that the additional standards check must be conducted. The designated district must run the CCFS report, LE Additional Local Standard Referral List to obtain the list of persons subject to the additional local standard as specified in question # 2 above, to obtain specific information regarding the persons for whom Legally Exempt Additional Standard(s) Review(s) must be conducted.

The Supervisor A of Child Protective Services will conduct the check of the local child welfare database to verify the accuracy of the information submitted to the parent/caretaker. When the local records check reveals that the individual specified in question #2 above is an indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report, the proposed child care provider will be required to submit to Schenectady County DSS a copy of the written statement provided to the parent/caretaker concerning the indicated incident(s). This statement must be signed by the parent/caretaker acknowledging receipt of this information and the parent/caretaker's wish to use this child care provider. If the information regarding the indicated child protective report submitted by the provider does not substantially correlate with the information obtained during the local records check related to the child care attestations, the Schenectady County DSS will notify the provider that he/she has ten (10) calendar days to clarify the discrepancies in the information submitted to the DSS and parent/caretaker.

The determinations will be made as follows:

Not Met:

- If the provider fails to clarify the discrepancies.

Met:

- If the information submitted by the provider correlates with the information obtained from the local database check and the parent/caretaker still chooses to use the provider
- When the local records check does not reveal a record wherein the person was an indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report.
- The Supervisor A of Central Intake Services will fax or email the 2114 form to the enrollment agency indicating whether or not the additional standard has been met.

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6. Indicate how frequently the additional local standard will be applied. Answer both questions.
- a. The Standard will be applied:
 - i. At initial enrollment and re-opening
 - ii. At each re-enrollment
 - b. The district will assess compliance with the additional local standard:
 - i. *During the enrollment review period*, and, the district will notify the Enrollment Agency of the results within 25 days from the E-Notice referral date.
 - ii. *During the 12-month enrollment period*, and, the district will notify the Enrollment Agency of the results promptly. Note that this option is always applicable to an additional local standard requiring participation in CACFP.

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

Legally exempt family child care and in-home care providers are caring for young vulnerable children utilizing tax payer dollars. Ensuring the safety of children in daycare settings is of paramount importance. Providers with extensive histories of child abuse, maltreatment in their families present a heightened risk to these children.

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APPENDIX R

Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences (Optional)

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

- Day Care Center Legally-Exempt Group
 Group Family Day Care School-Age Child Care
 Family Day Care

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

- Yes No

3. Base period (check one): 3 months 6 months

4. Number of absences allowed during base period:

Period	Routine Limits (# of days)	Extenuating Circumstances (# of days)	Total Number of Absences Allowed (# of days)
In a month	12	3	15
Base period	24	16	40

5. List reasons for absences for which the district will allow payment:

Child is ill; parent must provide written documentation. Extenuating circumstances include: Need for the child or caretaker to appear in court or keep other appointments related to the provision of preventive services, foster care, adoption or CPS; or need for the child to receive medical care or routine medical treatment.

6. List any limitations on the above providers' eligibility for payment for absences:

Parent must provide a written statement documenting reason for absence.

Note: *Legally-exempt family child care and in-home child care providers are **not** eligible to receive payment for absences.*

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APPENDIX S

Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures (Optional)

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

- Day Care Center Legally-Exempt Group
 Group Family Day Care School-Age Child Care
 Family Day 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).

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

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

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APPENDIX T

Transportation, Differential Payment Rates, Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers, and Sleep (Optional)

I. Transportation

1. Describe any circumstances and limitations the district will use to reimburse for transportation. 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.

No

Yes, describe:

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	<i>Differential Payment Rate Percent (%)</i>	Instructions for Differential Payment Rate Percent (%) Column
Homelessness: Licensed and Registered Providers State required minimum of 5%	5%	Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. (<u>Must</u> enter at least <u>5%</u>)
Homelessness: Legally-Exempt Providers	0%	Enter 0% or a percentage (%) up to 15%.
Non-traditional Hours: All Providers State required minimum of 5%	5%	Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. (<u>Must</u> enter at least <u>5%</u>)
Nationally Accredited Programs: Licensed and Registered Providers	0%	Enter 0% or a percentage (%) from 5% to 15%.

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2. Payments may not exceed 25% above market rate. However, if your district wants to establish a payment rate that is more than 15% above the applicable market rate, describe below why the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access within the district to accredited programs or care provided during non-traditional hours and/or care provided to children experiencing homelessness.

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

1. 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. Indicate percent, not to exceed 75% of the child care market rate established for registered family day care.

IV. Sleep

1. The following describes the standards the district will use to evaluate whether to pay for child care services while a caretaker that works a second or third shift sleeps, as well as any limitations pertaining to payment:

Single parent working 11:00p.m.-7:00a.m.

2. Indicate the number of hours allowed by your district per day (maximum number of hours allowed is eight).

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APPENDIX U

Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, Waivers, and Breaks in Activities (Optional)

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 or 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.

The provider must seek prior approval from the Services Director or the Commissioner, prior to providing 24 hour care. The provider must detail (verbally or in writing) the reason for the 24 hour care and the duration. Approval will be based on the nature of the emergency, availability of informal supports, and the duration of the care to be provided.

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.

The 18 or 19 year old is still in high school or is a recent participant in high school, and is still dependent on the family for support.

III. Waivers

1. Districts have the authority to request a waiver of any regulatory provision that is non-statutory. Describe and justify why your district is requesting a waiver.

IV. Breaks in Activities

1. Districts may pay for child care services for low-income families during breaks in activities either for a period not to exceed two weeks or for a period not to exceed four weeks when child care arrangements would otherwise be lost and the subsequent activity is expected to begin within that period. If your district will pay for breaks in activities, indicate below for how long of a break that the district will pay for (check one):

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- Two weeks Four weeks

2. Districts may provide child care services while the caretaker is waiting to enter an approved activity or employment or on a break between approved activities. The following low-income families are eligible for child care services during a break in activities (check all that are eligible):
- a. Entering an activity
 - b. Waiting for employment
 - c. On a break between activities