

# Child Care

## Appendix K: Child Care Administration

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:** Family of Woodstock, Inc
- b. Transitioning Families:** Family of Woodstock , Inc
- c. Income Eligible Families:** Family of Woodstock,Inc
- d. Title XX:** Columbia County DSS Prevention Unit

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

| <b>Item</b>  | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|
| <b>a. FFY 2016-2017 Rollover funds:</b><br><i>(available from the NYSCCBG ceiling report in the claiming system)</i> | \$100549      |
| <b>b. Estimate FFY 2017-2018 Rollover Funds:</b>   | \$181425      |
| <b>c. Estimate of Flexible Funds for Family Services transferred to the NYSCCBG:</b>                                 | \$0           |
| <b>d. NYSCCBG Allocation 2018:</b>   | \$1361956     |
| <b>e. Estimate of Local Share:</b>   | \$7848        |
| <b>Total Estimated NYSCCBG Amount:</b>   | \$1651778     |
| <b>f. Subsidy:</b>   | \$1394,325    |
| <b>g. Other program costs excluding subsidy:</b>   | \$0           |
| <b>h. Administrative costs:</b>  | \$257,453     |

### 3. Does your district have a contract or formal agreement with another organization to perform any of the following functions using the NYSCCBG?

| <b>Function</b>                    | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Amount of Contract</b> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Columbia County:</b> Child Care |                     |                           |

|   |                     |             |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>a. Subsidy eligibility screening</b>   | Family of Woodstock | \$227780.47 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>b. Determining if legally-exempt providers meet OCFS-approved additional local standards</b><br><i>(must be noted in Appendix Q with the corresponding additional standard)</i> |                     | \$          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>c. Assistance in locating care</b>  |                     | \$          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>d. Child care information systems</b>   |                     | \$          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>e. Payment processing</b>   |                     | \$          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>f. Other</b><br><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   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>1. Public Assistance (PA) families participating in an approved activity in addition to their required work activity.</b>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required   |
| <b>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:</b> |  |   |
| <b>a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program</b>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required - documenting that the individual is successfully participating in a substance abuse program. |
| <b>b) homeless</b>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Must be enrolled in homeless service at DSS (re-evaluate every 2 weeks).  |
| <b>c) a victim of domestic violence and participating in an approved activity</b>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required - documentation that the individual is participating in a domestic violence program.          |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>d) in an emergency situation of short duration</b>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required - ex: fire and dispossessed from home.   |
| <b>3. Families with an open child protective services case when child care is needed to protect the child.</b>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Referral from the local Department of Social Services Child Protective Unit required.  |
| <b>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:</b>  |  |  |
| <b>a) is physically or mentally incapacitated</b>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required -<br>a.) Must be a current daycare recipient.<br>b.) Will be returning to work within 6 weeks.<br>c.) Medical Verification Form must be completed by a medical doctor. |
| <b>b) has family duties away from home</b>  | <input type="radio"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> No |  |
| <b>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.</b> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required and only one time eligible per lifetime.   |
| <b>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.</b>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification Required - (Work Verification Form)   |
| <b>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:</b>  |  |  |
| <b>a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district</b>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)   |
| <b>b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma</b>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)   |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>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</b></p>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)</p>                                   |
| <p><b>d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write</b></p>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)</p>                                   |
| <p><b>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</b></p>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)</p>                                   |
| <p><b>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</b></p>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Release and verification required to receive current schedule and grades. Must maintain an overall C average.</p>                |
| <p><b>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</b></p>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Only if an Associate Degree has not been obtained. Release and verification required to receive current schedule and grades.</p> |
| <p><b>h) a prevocational skill training program such as a basic education and literacy training program</b></p>  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)</p>                                   |
| <p><b>i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor</b></p>   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Verification Form)</p>                                   |
| <p><b>Note:</b> The caretaker must complete the selected programs listed within 30 consecutive calendar months. The caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p>  |  |   |
| <p><b>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.</b></p> | <input type="radio"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> No |   |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>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 his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</b></p>  | <input type="radio"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> No |  |
| <p><b>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.</b></p>  | <input type="radio"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="radio"/> No |  |
| <p><b>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.</b></p> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes<br><input type="radio"/> No | <p>Verification required - (Education Verification Form and School Advisor Form)</p> |

# Appendix M #1: Reasonable Distance, Recertification Period, Family Share, Very Low Income, Federal and Local Priorities

## I. Reasonable Distance

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

1. The following defines "reasonable distance":

The definition of reasonable distance as it applies to public assistance applicants/recipients seeking accessible child care is as follows:

The maximum 'reasonable' distance that a TANF recipient would be expected to travel from home to work activity with a stop at a day care provider along the way is 15 miles.

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

A committee was formed of Department Staff and community organization staff to determine

appropriate reasonable distance.

## II. Recertification Period

The district's recertification period for low income child care cases is every:

- 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:

20%

*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 **150%** 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?

Yes

No

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

Rank 4 -Teen parents enrolled and actively attending high school.

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# 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**.

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 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.

Families who have children with special needs will be opened first. Next, families with very low income according the income bands below.

100-124% SIS, 125 -149%,150-174% SIS, and 175-200% SIS

Teen parents enrolled and actively attending high school will be opened last.

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

## 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).

Select one of the options listed below and describe the process for closing.

- 1. Close cases based on **AMOUNT OF TIME** receiving child care services.
- 2. Close cases based on **INCOME**.
- 3. Close cases based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.
- 4. Close cases 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.

Teen parent enrolled and actively attending high school will be closed first. Next we will close cases by income bands as reflected below.

175-200% SIS, 150 -174% SIS, 125-149% SIS, 100-124% SIS

Families with special needs children will be closed last.

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

### 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

### 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.

The following FEDS indicators will be used prior to generating a referral:

Working off the books, supported by loans/friends, self-employed but without accurate business records, no defined residence address, an individual has no documentation to verify his/her identity or the ID is suspect, Documentation or information is suspicious, prior history of denial and or provider

fraud, application inconsistent with prior case, and no absent parent information or inconsistent information, as well as household composition.

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.*

Columbia County verifies 100% childcare services cases no less than every 6 months. At recertification all families are required to provide documentation, which verifies their need for child care.

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.

On a quarterly basis Columbia County will compare the subsidy attendance forms against all CACFP Program inspection forms of 20% providers that participate in CACFP and care for subsidized children to verify that child care was provided on the days listed on the attendance form.

## 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.

### 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

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 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 child care providers caring for children

experiencing homelessness above the required minimum differential rate (complete Appendix T).

10. 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).

11. 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).

12. The district has chosen to pay for child care services while a caretaker who works the second or third shift sleeps (complete Appendix T).

13. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services exceeding 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix U).

14. The district has chosen to include 18-, 19- or 20-year-olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix U).

15. 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).

16. The district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non-public assistance families) (complete Appendix U).

17. 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 attach copies of the local equivalent form(s) that the district would like to use.

18. 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 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
|                                     | \$     |
|                                     | \$     |
|                                     | \$     |
| <b>Total Set-Asides (Title XX):</b> | \$     |

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: **\$20000**

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.

| <b>Family Size</b>  | <b>Eligibility Limit</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Two People</b>   | 275%                     |
| <b>Three People</b> | 255%                     |
| <b>Four People</b>  | 225%                     |

### 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

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## 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

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

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 provider / program not operating under the auspices of another government agency

Provider / director

Provider's employee

Provider's volunteer

Legally-exempt group provider / program operating under the auspices of another government or tribal agency

Provider / director

Provider's employee

Provider's 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.
- 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:*  
Prevention Unit, Jennifer Ganey
- Contracted agency (must correspond to Appendix K, Question 3b)  
*Provide the name of the agency and contact person:*

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

**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.**

Our district will provide the authorization form, which will allow our Department to conduct a local welfare database check, in the enrollment package instructing the provider (or adults 18 years or older) to return the completed enrollment package including the release(s) to the enrollment agency. If a provider or other required person specified in question 2 does not comply with the signed release to perform the additional standard, the packet is considered incomplete and the provider cannot be

enrolled.

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 (as specified in question #2 above) for whom Legally Exempt Additional Standard(s) Review(s) must be conducted and other pertinent information.

When a local child welfare database check reveals that a legally exempt provider and/or household member(s) 18 years of age and older are the indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report the provider will be required to submit to our Department a written statement providing information concerning the indicated report(s). This statement must be signed by the parent/caretaker acknowledging receipt of this information and confirming the parent/caretaker's wish to use this child care provider.

If the information on the written statement regarding the indicated child protective report does not correlate with the information obtained from the local data base check, our Department will notify the provider that they have five calendar days to clarify the discrepancies in the information submitted to the Department and parent/caretaker. Within that five calendar day period the provider must submit information to our Department and the parent/caretaker that either correlates with the information obtained by our Department's local database check or the provider submits information to our Department which documents that the information obtained from the local database check is inaccurate. If the provider fails to clarify the discrepancies our Department will notify the Legally Exempt Enrollment Agent that the additional standard has not been met and no additional payments will be authorized.

If the information on the written statement regarding the indicated child protective report correlates with the information obtained by the local child welfare database check, and the parent/caretaker still chooses to use the provider, the Enrollment Agent will be notified that the additional local standard has been met. In some cases, our district will need to inform the parent that the parent's decision to place their child in the care of this provider would place their child at risk. As mandated reporters, our Department is obligated to make a report of suspected child abuse or maltreatment if placing the child in the care of a provider would place the child in imminent danger of impairment and the parent/caretaker nevertheless places the child in that provider's care. Parent will be informed of their right to choose an alternative provider and be given information about how to locate other provider.

The Columbia County Department of Social Services will make the determinations as follows:

- Not met - If the provider fails to clarify the discrepancies.
- Met
  - If the information regarding the indicated child protective report submitted by the provider to the parent/caretaker and the local district 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.
- Not Applicable: When the applicable person resides outside of the subsidy-paying district, or the program's site of care is located outside of the subsidy-paying district; or, the informal provider is younger than 18 years of age.

In accordance with 12-OCFS-LCM-01, Columbia County Department of Social Services will complete the OCFS-2114, District Notification to Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency, and send it to the applicable Enrollment Agency to notify the Enrollment Agency of the determination of: "met, "Not Met" or "Not Applicable".

**6. Indicate how frequently the additional local standard will be applied. Answer both questions.**

**Columbia County:** Child Care

**1. The Standard will be applied:**

- At initial enrollment and re-opening
- At each re-enrollment

**2. The district will assess compliance with the additional local standard:**

- 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.
- 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.**

To ensure information that could affect the safety of the children in legally exempt child care settings is shared.

The Department of Social Services wants to make sure that providers have told parents about known child protective histories for themselves and any adults 18 years or older residing in the providers' home where child care is to take place.

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# Appendix R: Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences

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

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

- 3 months

6 months

**4. Number of absences allowed per child during base period:**

| <b>Period</b>      | <b>Routine Limits<br/>(# of days)</b> | <b>Extenuating Circumstances<br/>(# of days)</b> | <b>Total Number of Absences Allowed<br/>(# of days)</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>In a Month</b>  | 6                                     | 1  | 7   |
| <b>Base Period</b> | 15                                    | 3  | 18  |

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

Child Absences such as: illnesses, appointments, non-custodial visits, court appointments

Family Absences such as: death in family, jury duty, family court appearances, and 2 medically documented parent/guardian illnesses per case

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

Must be contracted.

Absences will not be paid for end of care.

Absences must be used for "Scheduled Hours".

Provider must list reason(s) for absence(s).

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

**Columbia County:** Child Care

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.**

Five days for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Christmas Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, Memorial Day and/or observance days.

*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

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

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

%

**IV. Sleep**

1. Does the district choose to pay for child care services while a caretaker that works a second or third shift sleeps?

- No
- Yes

2. 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:

All request for sleep time must be submitted in writing. Written requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis considering but not limited to the following:

- 1) The parent/caretaker works the 3rd shift fulltime (8 hours)
- 2) There is no other responsible adult in the household to care the children while the parent/caretaker sleeps before or after the shift.

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

6

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## Appendix U: Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, Waivers, and Breaks in Activities

### 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.**

Emergency basis only to be evaluated on a case by case basis.

### 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.**

### **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.**

### **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):**

- 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):**

- Entering an activity
- Waiting for employment
- On a break between activities