



July 14, 2009

New York State
Office of
Children & Family
Services

www.ocfs.state.ny.us

David A. Paterson
Governor

Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner

Capital View Office Park
52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Mr. Kevin P. Mahon, Commissioner
Westchester County Department of Social Services
County Office Building #2
112 East Post Road
White Plains, NY 10601

Dear Commissioner Mahon:

This letter is to inform you that the child care section found in the administrative component of your Annual Plan Update 2008-2009 was approved on July 14, 2009. The child care section became effective on July 14, 2009.

This approval is being issued separate from the approval of other sections of your plan in order to accommodate your county's need to implement the child care services provisions. A letter approving the remaining sections of your plan will be sent upon their approval.

If you have any questions about this approval or the child care section found in your Annual Plan Update 2008-2009 please contact Ms. Amy Ryan, (518) 474-9620 or by e-mail at Amy.Ryan@ocfs.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

Janice M. Molnar
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services

cc: Paul Surovich



APPENDIX G-1

**CHILD CARE SECTION
DATED 2007-2009**

County: Westchester

I. Administration (Required Section)

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:

Public Assistance Families: **Temporary Assistance (TA)**

Transitioning Families: **TA-2 months /Day Care Subsidies 10 months**

Income Eligible Families: **Day Care Subsidies**

Title XX: **MPS and Day Care Subsidies**

Indicate the use of New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG) Funds.

FFY 06-07 Rollover Funds (<i>this amount is available from the NYSCCBG ceiling report in the claiming system</i>)	\$ 5,924,273
Estimate of FFY 07-08 Rollover Funds	\$ 331,070.00
Estimate of Flexible Funds for Families (FFFS) for child care subsidies	\$ 0
NYSCCBG Allocation for SFY 08-09	\$ 19,652,510
Estimate of Local Share	\$ 1,731,893

Total Estimated NYSCCBG Amount: \$21,715,473

\$21,715,473

A. Subsidy	\$18,594,786
B. Other program costs (excluding subsidy)	\$ 2,791,655
C. Administrative costs	\$ 329,032

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

<u>Function:</u>	<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Amount of Contract:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility screening Function		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assistance in locating care	Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc. ENHANCED REFERRAL	\$86,911.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Information Systems		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Determining if legally- exempt providers meet State approved additional local standards (if applicable)	Child Care Council of Westchester, In. FRAUD Related verification of services provided **There are no additional quality inspection visits after the original approval (as there are with FDCs and GFDCs).	\$135,00.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	CCC (additional inspection visits to FDCs and GFDCs with subsidized children)	\$91,048.00
	Arlene Leuzzi- Consultant Subsidy Issues and Payment Claiming Training to Day Care Providers.	\$52,776 (amount)

APPENDIX G-2

II. Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available (Required Section)

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

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
1. Public Assistance (PA) families participating in an approved activity in addition to their required work activity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Day Care is subsidized by DSS in situations where the program has been approved, on a case-by-case basis, as a program that will enhance the specific customer's skills for self-sufficiency.
2. PA families or families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when the caretaker is:		
a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	a) Only for TA families where participation is in an approved substance abuse treatment program and is mandated as part of the Self-Sufficiency Plan.
b) homeless	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	b) Day Care for homeless households is authorized if and only if all other eligibility requirements are met: customer must be participating in a required employment related program or be employed; the household must demonstrate a need for the day care services.
c) a victim of domestic violence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	c) Only in cases where the customer is participating in a DSS approved program leading to self-sufficiency, on a case by case basis, at the sole discretion of the Department.
d) in an emergency situation of short duration	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
3. Families with an open child protective services case when child care is needed to protect the child.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	As approved by the CPS worker as appropriate.

<p>4. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed because the child's caretaker:</p>		
<p>a) is physically or mentally incapacitated</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>a) Only with open MPS case when needed to protect the child AND ONLY IF TILE XIX personal care is deemed necessary for the protection of the child.</p>
<p>b) has family duties away from home</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>5. Families with income 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 6 months.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>For a period not to exceed 30 days for non-TA households. Customer must have a currently active day care subsidy case, must have reported loss of employment within 10 days of such loss to DSS and be engaged in approved job search.</p>
<p>6. PA families where a sanctioned parent 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>The sanction must be durational (thereby establishing the need to continue the sanction) and the parent must now be in complete compliance with the regulation or regulations, violation of which precipitated the sanction.</p>
<p>7. Families with income 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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>a) Only for programs approved by the Department, at local discretion, subject to availability, at the discretion of the Department, for customers employed at least 30 hours per week OR for customers under the age of 21.</p>

b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of a self-sufficiency plan.
c) a program providing basic remedial education in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and oral communications for individuals functioning below the ninth month of the eighth grade level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of a self-sufficiency plan
d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of a self-sufficiency plan
e) English as a second language (ESL) instructional program designed to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing the English language for individuals whose primary language is other than English	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of a self-sufficiency plan
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 degree or certificate of completion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of a self-sufficiency plan
g) a training program, which has a specific occupational goal and is conducted by an institution licensed or approved by the State Education Department other than a college or university	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Only for programs approved by the Department, at local discretion, subject to availability, at the discretion of the Department, for customers employed at least 30 hours per week OR for customers on TA and if and only if the program is approved as a mandatory part of they self-sufficiency plan.
h) a prevocational skill training program such as, a basic education and literacy training program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of the self-sufficiency plan

<p>i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor.</p> <p>The parent/caretaker must complete the selected programs listed under number seven within 30 consecutive calendar months. The parent/caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>For TA households only, if approved as a mandatory part of the self-sufficiency plan</p>
<p>8. PA recipients and 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 associates degree or certificate of completion and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the parent/caretaker's earning capacity) as long as the parent(s) or caretaker is also working at least 17 ½ hours per week. The parent/caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>For TA households , if approved as a mandatory part of the self-sufficiency plan; for low-income households, only for programs approved by the Department, at local discretion, subject to availability, at the discretion of the Department, for customers employed at least 30 hours per week.</p>
<p>9. PA recipients and 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 degree and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the parent/caretaker's earning capacity) as long as the parent(s) or caretaker is also working at least 17 ½ hours per week. The parent/caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>For TA households , if approved as a mandatory part of the self-sufficiency plan; for low-income households, only for programs approved by the Department, at local discretion, subject to availability, at the discretion of the Department, for customers employed at least 30 hours per week.</p>

APPENDIX G-3

III. Reasonable Distance, Very Low Income, Family Share, Case Closings and Openings, and Fraud and Abuse Control Activities_ (Required Section)

Reasonable Distance

Your district is required to define reasonable distance based on community standards for determining accessible child care.

The following defines "reasonable distance": **One and one half hours commute each way.**

Describe any steps/consultations made to arrive at your definition: **Previously established.**

Very Low Income

Very Low Income is defined by each district and is used in determining priorities for child care benefits.

Very Low Income is defined as **200%** of the State Income Standard.

Family Share

Family share is the weekly amount paid towards the costs of the child care services by the child's parent or caretaker. In establishing family share, your district must select a percentage from 10% to 35% to use in calculating the family share. The family share of child care 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 our district **10%**.

Case Closings (select one or two)

1. The district must describe below how priority is given to federally mandated priorities and describe local priorities. If all NYSCCBG funds are committed, the district will discontinue funding to those families that have lower priorities in order to serve families with higher priorities. Described below is how the district will select cases to be closed in the event that there are insufficient or no funds available.

The district will close employment related cases in the Title XX category. The district will not close Low-Income cases on the existing caseload. The district has requested local tax levy for child day care subsidies to supplement the CCBG.

2. The district has not established priorities beyond the federally-mandated priorities. If all NYSCCBG funds are committed, case closings for families which are not eligible under a child care guarantee and are not a federally-mandated priority must be based on the length of time in receipt of services. The length of time used to close cases may be based either on the shortest or longest time receiving child care services but must be consistent for all families. The district has chosen to close cases based on:

- shortest time receiving child care services***
 longest time receiving child care services

*****At this time, Westchester County does not intend to close any open Low Income cases.**

Case Openings

The district must describe below how priority is given to federally mandated priorities and how the district will select cases to be opened in the event that there are insufficient funds available.

The district will discontinue the opening of Title XX employment related cases. The district will continue to process applications for low-income households with children with Special Needs. Other Low-Income APPLICANTS will be placed on a waiting list with priority given to households with the earliest application date.

Fraud and Abuse Control Activities

The district must identify below the criteria it will use to determine which child care subsidy applications suggest a higher than acceptable risk for fraudulent or erroneous child care subsidy payment and procedures for referring such applications to the district's front end detection system.

With regard to section 415.4, subdivision (m) (2), the Audit & Review Unit of BCR selects cases for investigation of continued need for childcare subsidy assistance by reviewing a monthly report produced by BICS which contains payment information to childcare providers. Active Service cases as well as Temporary Assistance cases with current recurring childcare payment lines are randomly chosen for review and assigned to unit staff on a recurring basis. This work volume is supplemented by performing investigations as requested by the customer's case manager or his/her administrative superior, which are generally made via emails sent to the A&R Unit Supervisor or Assistant Supervisor. These requests for investigation often pertain to applications or pending requests for childcare subsidy assistance that are under review for eligibility by the case manager.

Our Day Care Feds plan, previously submitted to OCFS for approval, is attached.

The district must describe below its sampling methodology used to determine which cases it will seek verification of an applicant or recipient's continued need for child care including, as applicable, verification of participation in employment, education or other required activities.

Concerning a specific sampling methodology for the cases indicated above, the unit strives to audit all current childcare subsidy situations that it can identify. This is accomplished by regularly reviewing the aforementioned report. Cases that have been investigated within the past 90 days are excluded from current audits. All others are subject to possible review

Verification of participation in any required activities (other than employment) is generally applicable only on TA cases, as Childcare Subsidy Assistance service cases rarely involve customers who require such assistance for reasons other than work-related needs. Whenever applicable, however, the unit investigators will verify the current compliance status of all customers who are obligated to participate in any required activities.

The district must describe below its sampling methodology used to determine which child care providers of subsidized child care services they will review for the purpose of comparing the child care providers attendance forms for children receiving subsidized child care services and 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 sampling methodology pertaining to the determination of which caregivers of subsidized childcare services will be reviewed by the Audit & Review Unit of BCR is similar to that of the childcare subsidy cases described above. The unit strives to review all such caregivers, in turn, by identifying them via lists obtained or derived from several sources. In addition to the lists of currently contracted providers compiled each year in the agency's Central Office, a list of non-contracted providers has been assembled by the members of the A&R Unit.

Careful review of the caregiver's attendance forms and other related documents to verify whether or not childcare was actually provided on the days listed on the attendance forms is being done on all applicable providers. Currently, A&R Unit staff are auditing 40% of all subsidized childcare slots when the number identified is ten or more for any provider, and 100% of those that number less than ten in the period selected for audit.

With regard to section 415.4 subdivision (m) (3), the audit and review unit will compare the attendance records of the providers reviewed each month with child and adult care food program inspection forms where available.

APPENDIX G-4

IV. District Options (Required Section)

Districts have certain flexibility to administer the child care subsidy program to meet local needs. Check which options that your district wishes to include in your county plan. Complete attachments for any area(s) checked.

1. Our district has identified local priorities in addition to the federal priorities (complete Appendix G-5).
2. Our district has chosen to establish funding set-asides for NYSCCBG (complete Appendix G-6).
3. Our district is using Title XX funds for the provision of child care services (complete Appendix G-7).
4. Our district has chosen to establish additional local standards for child care providers (complete Appendix G-8).
5. Our district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for absences (complete Appendix G-9).
6. Our district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for program closures (complete Appendix G-10).
7. Our district has chosen to pay for transportation to and from a child care provider (complete Appendix G-11).
8. Our district has chosen to pay up to a 15% higher than the applicable market rates for regulated child care services that have been accredited by a nationally recognized child care organization (complete Appendix G-11).
9. Our district has chosen to pay up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates for non-traditional hours (complete Appendix G-11).
10. Our district has chosen to pay for child care services while a caretaker who works the second or third shift sleeps (complete Appendix G-11).
11. Our district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services, which exceed 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix G-12).
12. Our district has chosen to include 18, 19 or 20 year olds in the Child

Care Services Unit (complete Appendix G-12).

13. Our district is seeking a waiver from one or more regulatory provisions. Such waivers are limited to those regulatory standards that are not specifically included in law (complete Appendix G- 12).
14. Our district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non public assistance families, complete Appendix G-12).
15. Our district has chosen to use local equivalent forms such as, but not limited to, child care application, client notification and/or legally exempt enrollment forms (attach copies of the local equivalent forms your district uses).

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.

**APPENDIX G-5
PRIORITY POPULATIONS-ADDITIONAL LOCAL PRIORITIES**

In addition to the federal priorities of very low income families and families with children who have special needs, the following additional local priorities have been selected:
Westchester County has not selected additional local priorities.

Category: Rank:

Description:

Category: Rank:

Description:

Category: Rank:

Description:

Category: Rank:

Description:

Category: Rank:

Description:

**APPENDIX G-6
FUNDING SET-ASIDES**

**Total NYSCCBG Block Grant Amount Including Local
Funds**

Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Total set asides	\$

**Westchester County has not elected to set-aside funds
for specific uses.**

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

Category:

Category:

Category:

Category:

Category:

Westchester County dos not have any NYSCCBG set-asides.

APPENDIX G-6 (continued)

The following amounts are set aside for specific priorities out of the Title XX block grant:
Westchester County does not have any Title XX set-asides.

Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Category:	\$
Total set asides (Title XX)	\$ N/A

Describe for each category the rationale behind specific set aside amounts out of the Title XX block grant (e.g. estimated number of children, etc.).**N/A**

Category:

Category:

Category:

Category:

**APPENDIX G-7
TITLE XX CHILD CARE**

Projected total Title XX expenditures for plan duration: **\$ 2,395,300 for 2007.**
Subsequent annual expenditures are expected not to fall below this level.

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 1 or 2, 255% for a family of 3, and 225% for a family of 4 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) **275%** (3) **255%** (4) **225%**

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

Does your 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:
Same as for 200% Other Eligible Categories.

Does your district prioritize certain eligible families for Title XX funding?
 YES NO

If yes, describe which families will receive priority:
N/A

Does your district use Title XX funds for child care for open child protective services cases?
 YES NO

Does your district use Title XX funds for child care for open child preventive services cases?
 YES NO

APPENDIX G-8 ADDITIONAL LOCAL STANDARDS FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

The district may propose local standards in addition to the State standards for providers who will receive child care subsidies.

1. Described below are the additional local standards that will be required of providers as well as which providers must comply with each additional standard.

The Child Care Council of Westchester will conduct 3 quality assurance visits every two years to Group Family and Family Day Care Providers with subsidized children. The CCC will follow-up with appropriate reporting procedures to the YRO of OCFS when violations are discovered.

2. Described below are the methods and resources that will be utilized to determine that these additional local standards are being met.

The Westchester County Department of Social Services is under contract with the Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc. to provide this service. Monthly reports are submitted to WCDSS. Other services and the expenditure for this service are described in Schedule A of the contract.

3. Described below are the procedures the district will use to notify the Legally Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency as to whether or not the legally exempt provider is in compliance with the additional local standards. (Districts only need to describe this procedure if the additional local standard is applied to legally exempt child care providers.)

Westchester County's additional standards do not apply to the Legally Exempt Providers. Furthermore, it is the enrollment agency that is conducting the additional, non-mandated, investigations. Child Care Council staff who conduct the visits are required to indicate what type of activity they are carrying out each day on their weekly time sheets. This allows for the appropriate contract to be billed. The actual allocation of time each year is analyzed by the Child Care Council before a new CACFP budget is developed to prevent duplication of payments.

4. Described below is the justification for each additional standard.

Justification for the additional standard of non-mandated inspections for providers with subsidized children in care:

- **Research shows that the quality of child care is affected by the number of supportive child care connections that a provider has.**

These visits form the basis of a professional support system for the provider.

- **These visits also provide an additional opportunity to ensure that providers are in regulatory compliance.**
- **Visits also provide an opportunity for Council staff to educate providers about the subsidy system and to assist them with any subsidy issues.**
- **The additional visits also provide an opportunity for additional observation of programs and discussion of child development and its impact on quality of care.**

**APPENDIX G-9
 PAYMENT TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS FOR ABSENCES**

The following providers are eligible for payment for absences:
 (Check any that are eligible)

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

Our district will only pay for absences to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent. Yes No ***contract only**

Base period selected (check one) 3 months 6 months

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	0	12
Base period- 3months	12	0	12

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

List any limitations on the above providers' eligibility for payment for absences:
The provider must have an executed contract and the absence must be temporary and cannot be a withdrawal from the program. Program closures do not count as absences.

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

**APPENDIX G-10
PAYMENT TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS FOR PROGRAM CLOSURES**

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

Our district will only pay for program closures to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent. Yes No ***contract only**

Enter the number of days allowed for program closures (maximum allowable program closures is five days). **5**

List the allowable program closures for which the district will provide payment. **Holiday, Inclement Weather, Training as provided in the contract and selected by the vendor.**

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

APPENDIX G-11 TRANSPORTATION, DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENT RATES, SLEEP

Transportation

Describe below under what circumstances and limitations if any your district will use to reimburse for transportation, what type of transportation will be reimbursed (public vs. private), and how much your district will pay (per mile or trip). Note if paying for transportation, Appendix F will need to reflect this choice.

N/A

Differential Payment Rates

Indicate below the percentage above the market rate your district has chosen.

Accredited Programs may receive a differential payment up to **N/A**% above market rate.

Care during non-traditional hours may be paid up to **N/A**% above market rate.

Limitations to the above differentials are as follows: **N/A**

Payments may not exceed 15% above market rate. However, if your district wishes to establish a payment rate that is in excess of 15% above the applicable market rate must describe below why the 15% maximum is insufficient to provide access within the district to accredited programs and/or care provided during non-traditional hours.

N/A

Sleep

The following describes the standards that will be used in evaluating whether or not to pay for child care services while a parent or caretaker that works a second or third shift sleeps and any limitations pertaining to payment:

Sleep time daycare must be determined by DSS to be absolutely necessary for the health and safety of the child and for the parent/caretaker to be engaged in employment leading to self sufficiency.

Indicate the number of hours allowed by your district (maximum number of hours allowed is eight). **7**

**APPENDIX G-12
CHILD CARE EXCEEDING 24 HOURS, CHILD CARE SERVICES UNIT, WAIVERS,
BREAKS IN ACTIVITIES**

Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours

Child care services may exceed 24 consecutive hours when such services are provided on a short-term emergency basis or in other cases where the caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis.

Describe any limitations for payment of child care services that exceed 24 consecutive hours.

N/A

Child Care Services Unit

The Child Care Service Unit is the basis upon which a district will determine which household and/or family members should be counted in determining family size and countable family income.

Our district will include the following in the Child Care Services Unit (check which ones apply).

18 year old 19 year old 20 year old

-OR-

Our district will include only the following in the Child Care Services Unit when it will benefit the family (check which ones apply).

18 year old 19 year old 20 year old

Describe the criteria your district will use to determine whether or not an 18, 19 or 20 year old is included in the Child Care Services Unit. **Day Care Eligibility cannot be adversely affected; parent share cannot be greater than without including these additional household members.**

Waivers

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. N/A

Westchester County requests a waiver of 18 NYCRR 415.3(c). This waiver eliminates the requirement that parents actively pursue child support as a condition of eligibility for a child care subsidy. Although we believe strongly that both parents should be responsible for the support of their children, we do not believe that the Child Subsidy program should be used as leverage to achieve this end. The main purpose/goal of the child subsidy should be to eliminate one of the primary barriers for parents, especially single parents, to be able to work and to ensure that children are in a safe and healthy environment while their

parent(s) engage in work. Effective date of waiver is January 15, 2008

Breaks in Activities

Districts may pay for child care services for low income families during breaks in activities for a period not to exceed two weeks or for a period not to exceed one month where child care arrangements would otherwise be lost and the subsequent activity is expected to begin within that period (check one).N/A

two weeks four weeks

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 any that are eligible):

entering an activity waiting to begin employment break between activities

