



Office of Children
and Family Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Acting Commissioner

October 15, 2015

Ms. Christine Schuyler, Commissioner
Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services
Temporary Assistance Division
South County Office Building
110 E. Fourth St.
Jamestown, New York 14701

Dear Commissioner Schuyler:

This letter is in response to your request to amend Chautauqua County's 2015 Child and Family Services Plan Annual Plan Update. Chautauqua County Department of Social Services (CCDSS) proposed to request the following waivers of regulatory provisions that are non-statutory for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership program.

Family co-pay

Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.3(e) which requires that each family receiving child care services, with the exception of a family on temporary assistance, pay a family share based on income. This waiver pertains only to families in receipt of child care in lieu of Temporary Assistance, and only for the child(ren) participating in an Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program.

Flexibility in eligibility periods

Waive 18 NYCRR § 404.1(c) which requires that redetermination be made not less than every 12 months. This waiver will allow districts to match child care eligibility periods to the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program period regardless of disruptions in the parent's eligibility. This waiver only applies to the child(ren) participating in an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships.

Flexibility in reporting changes in family circumstances

Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.3(b) which requires that applicants are responsible for providing accurate, complete and current information regarding family income and composition, child care arrangements and any other circumstances related to the family's eligibility for child care services, and for notifying the social services district immediately of any changes in such information.

The waiver would relax the income documentation/verification requirements and revise the redetermination process to relax/eliminate the need for parents to report even small changes in their circumstances that lead to a loss of eligibility for child care. This waiver would pertain only if the parent only has a child participating in an Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program.

This request has been approved and is effective October 15, 2015. If you have any questions about this approval or the child care section found in your district's 2012-2016 Child and Family Services Plan, please contact Mr. Michael Miller at (518) 408-3395 or Michael.Miller@ocfs.ny.gov.

Sincerely,



Janice M. Molnar, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services

CC: Marge Basile Johnson, Director of TA