



Office of Children and Family Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Acting Commissioner

September 1, 2015

Al Dirschberger, Ph.D., Commissioner
Erie County Department of Social Services
Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin St. – 8th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202-3959

Dear Commissioner Dirschberger:

This letter is in response to your request to amend Erie County's 2015 Child and Family Services Plan Annual Plan Update. Erie County 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(d) which requires that redetermination be made not less than every 12 months. This waiver will allow the district to match child care eligibility periods to the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership program period regardless of disruption in the parent's eligibility. This waiver only applies to the child(ren) participating in an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership program.

Flexibility in reporting changes in family circumstances: Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.3(b) which requires applicants and recipients to report immediately any change in financial circumstances, living arrangements, employment, household composition, or other circumstances that affect the family's need or eligibility for child care services. Erie County will continue to require clients to report income documentation/verification requirements and will determine on a case by case situation if 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 September 1, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice Molnar".

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