



August 26, 2011

New York State
Office of
Children &
Family
Services

Mr. John E. Imhof, Commissioner
Nassau County Department of Social Services
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 160
Uniondale, NY 11553-3686

www.ocfs.state.ny.us

Dear Commissioner Imhof:

This letter is in response to your request to amend Nassau County's Child and Family Services 2011 Annual Plan Update. Nassau County has proposed the following changes to its Child and Family Services Plan:

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

Appendix G-3:

- Increase the family share from 17.5% to 20% with a 10% cap on annual gross income;
- Rescind the policy that the prorates the family share to 50% for all children receiving part-time care;
- Revise the criteria used to determine which applicants have a higher than acceptable risk for fraud.

Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner

Appendix G-9:

- Decrease the total number of absences allowed in the six month base period.

Capital View Office Park
52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, NY
12144-2834

Appendix G-11:

- No longer pay for transportation services to and from child care providers.

I am pleased to inform you that this request has been approved and is effective August 26, 2011. The effective date for the change to transportation services is effective January 1, 2012. If you have any questions about the child care section found in your district's 2011 Annual Plan Update, please contact Ms. Antonia Weidner at (518) 408-3395, or by e-mail at Antonia.Weidner@ocfs.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

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





NASSAU COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
60 CHARLES LINDBERGH BLVD., SUITE 160
UNIONDALE, NEW YORK 11553-3686
Phone: 516-227-7403 Fax: 516-227-8432
Web: <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov>

#5326

8/19/11

gH

JOHN E. IMHOF, PhD
COMMISSIONER

↳ Rhonda Duffrey
DM 8/23/11

August 15, 2011

Janice M. Molnar
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services
NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)
52 Washington Street, Room 309 South
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Subject: Proposed amendment to the Nassau County 2011 Annual Plan Update (APU) to the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP), Child Care Section

Dear Ms. Molnar:

Nassau County proposes to amend the child care section of the 2011 APU. I request that OCFS review and approve the proposed amendment.

The proposed amendment addresses the following components of Nassau's child care plan:

Family share fee: The family share fee will be increased from 17.5% to 20%. Additionally, the aggregate family share fee paid on an annual basis will be capped for each family at a maximum of 10% of annual gross income to be effective immediately upon approval by OCFS.

Half Day Family share fee: Currently the family share fee is prorated to 50 percent for all children receiving a part-day rate. Under the proposed amendment this policy would be rescinded effective immediately upon approval by OCFS.

Paid absences: The total number of absences allowed in the 6-month base period is decreased from 40 to 15 absences, consisting of 12 routine and 3 extenuating circumstance absences. On a monthly basis, absences will be limited to 5 routine and 3 extenuating circumstances. A physician's note will be required after 5 consecutive day's absence due to illness or required medical care/treatment to be effective immediately upon approval by OCFS.

Transportation payments: Nassau will no longer pay for transportation services effective on January 1, 2012.

Fraud and abuse control activities: The list of criteria to be used to determine which child care applications have a higher than acceptable risk for fraud has been amended to include additional criteria, and the procedure for referring such applications to the district's front-end detection system has been changed. To be effective immediately upon approval by OCFS. *Note: As this change does not constitute a reduction in services, a change in eligibility, or a change in fees, the proposed amendment to fraud and abuse control activities was not included in the public comment period.*

As required by NYS regulation (18 NYCRR 407.10), Nassau County provided for a 30-day public comment process allowing the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the plan that involve a reduction in services, a change in eligibility, or a change in fees.

Copies of public notices which include descriptions of the proposed changes are attached. Note that two public comment periods were held. As the comments solicited from the first comment period resulted in changes to the proposed amendment, a second comment period was held.

Public comment period: May 13, 2011—June 13, 2011; July 13, 2011—August 12, 2011

Public notification: Public notice was posted to the Nassau County website to correspond to the date of the comment periods (see <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Purchasing/publicnotice/>). Legal notice was published in Newsday on May 14, 2011 and again on July 13, 2011 (proof of publication attached).

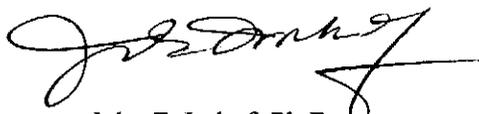
Local advisory council notification: Information about the proposed amendment was e-mailed to members of the local advisory council on May 13th and again on July 13th.

DSS received public comments from fourteen individuals and/or organizations. A summary is attached. All comments were carefully reviewed. As appropriate and feasible, comments and recommendations were incorporated into the proposed amendment. A copy of Nassau's response is attached.

The proposed amendment is summarized in the attached table and cross-referenced to appropriate sections of the APU. Attached you will find amended copies of all the relevant appendices to the 2011 APU.

Should you have any questions feel free to contact Ms. Sunita Manjrekar, Director of Employment Programs and Child Care, at phone 516 227-7970 or email Sunita.Manjrekar@hhsnassaucountyny.us, or Ms. Justine Hanif-Carr, Day Care Administration, at phone 516 227-7912 or email Justine.Hanif@hhsnassaucountyny.us

Sincerely,



John E. Imhof, Ph.D.
Commissioner

Cc: Antonia Weidner, Division of Child Care Services

JEI/tab

Legal Notice 16712701

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Concerning proposed changes
to child care services**

July 13, 2011—August 12, 2011
During the period May 13,
2011—June 13, 2011, the Nas-
sau County Department of So-
cial Services (DSS) held a Pub-
lic Comment Period concerning
a proposed amendment to the
child care section of Nassau's
2011 Annual Plan Update to the
Child and Family Services Plan.
After careful consideration the
proposed amendment has been
revised to incorporate as appro-
priate some of the recommen-
dations received. Due to the na-
ture of the changes, the pro-
posed amendment to the child
care plan is again published for
public comment.

DSS announces a Public Com-
ment Period concerning a pro-
posed amendment to the child
care section of Nassau's 2011
Annual Plan Update to the Child
and Family Services Plan. Child
care services mean nonparen-
tal care for an eligible child pro-
vided on a regular basis either
in or away from the child's resi-
dence for less than 24 hours per
day which is provided by an eli-
gible provider. Families are eli-
gible for child care assistance
under the NYS Child Care Block
Grant. Child care assistance is
provided to eligible low-income
families to facilitate employ-
ment and other positive social
outcomes.

The proposed amendment ad-
dresses the following compo-
nents of Nassau's child care
plan:

Family Share fee: Family share
is the amount paid by the child's
parent or caretaker towards the
cost of child care services. Under
the proposed amendment
the family share fee will be in-
creased from 17.5% to 20%.
Additionally, the aggregate fami-
ly share fee paid on an annual
basis will be capped for each
family at a maximum of 10% of
annual gross income.

Half Day Family Share fee: The
family share fee is prorated to
50 percent for all children re-
ceiving a part-day rate. Under
the proposed amendment this
policy would be rescinded effec-
tive immediately.

Paid absences: Child care pro-
viders receive payment on a
limited basis for children tempo-
rarily absent from care. The pro-
posed amendment decreases
the total number of absences al-
lowed in the 6-month base peri-
od from 40 to 15 absences, con-
sisting of 12 routine and 3 ex-
tenuating circumstance ab-
sences. On a monthly basis, ab-
sences will be limited to 5 rou-
tine and 3 extenuating circum-
stances. A physician's note will
be required after 5 consecutive
days absence due to illness or
required medical care/
treatment.

Transportation payments: Cer-
tain child care providers receive
payment for transporting chil-
dren to and from care. Under
the proposed amendment Nas-
sau will no longer pay for trans-
portation services. This policy
will become effective on Janu-
ary 1, 2012.

Nassau's 2011 child care plan
can be viewed at [http://www.
ocfs.state.ny.us/main/
childcare/plans/Nassau/default.
html](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/plans/Nassau/default.html). You may also contact

Thomas Brooks at 516-227-
7480 to request a plan copy.
The proposed amendment be-
comes effective upon comple-
tion of the public comment peri-
od and receipt of NYS approval.
Written comments are welcome
and must be received no later
than 4:45pm on August 12,
2011. Comments may be sub-
mitted via mail, email or fax,
addressed to: John E. Imhof,
Commissioner, Nassau County
DSS, 60 Charles Lindbergh
Bldg., Uniondale, NY, 11553,
email: [Public.Comment@
hhsnassaucounty.ny.us](mailto:Public.Comment@hhsnassaucounty.ny.us), fax:
516-227-8363.

Edward P. Mangano,
County Executive
John E. Imhof, Ph.D.,
Commissioner

NEWSDAY PROOF

Customer: NASSAU CTY. DEPT. OF SOCIAL

Contact: TOM BROOKS Phone: 5162277460

Ad Number: 16712701 Start Date: 07/13/2011

End Date: 07/13/2011 Times: 1

Legal Notice 16677002

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Concerning proposed changes to child care services
May 13, 2011—June 13, 2011

The Nassau County Department of Social Services (DSS) announces a Public Comment Period concerning a proposed amendment to the child care section of Nassau's 2011 Annual Plan Update to the Child and Family Services Plan. Child care services mean nonparental care for an eligible child provided on a regular basis either in or away from the child's residence for less than 24 hours per day which is provided by an eligible provider. Families are eligible for child care assistance under the NYS Child Care Block Grant. Child care assistance is provided to eligible low-income families to facilitate employment and other positive social outcomes.

The proposed amendment addresses the following components of Nassau's child care plan:

Family Share fee: Family share is the amount paid by the child's parent or caretaker towards the cost of child care services. Under the proposed amendment the family share fee will be increased from 17.5% to 24%.

Paid absences: Child care providers receive payment on a limited basis for children temporarily absent from care. The proposed amendment decreases the total number of absences allowed in the 6-month base period from 40 to 15 absences, consisting of 12 routine and 3 extenuating circumstance absences. On a monthly basis, absences will be limited to 5 routine and 3 extenuating circumstances. A physician's note will be required after 3 consecutive days absence due to illness or required medical care/treatment.

Transportation payments: Certain child care providers receive payment for transporting children to and from care. Under the proposed amendment Nassau will no longer pay for transportation services.

Nassau's 2011 child care plan can be viewed at www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/plans/Nassau/default.html. You may also contact Thomas Brooks at 516-227-7460 to request a plan copy. The proposed amendment becomes effective upon completion of the public comment period and receipt of NYS approval.

Written comments are welcome and must be received no later than 4:45pm on June 13, 2011. Comments may be submitted via mail, email or fax, addressed to: John E. Imhof, Commissioner, Nassau County DSS, 60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd., Uniondale, NY, 11553, email: Public.Comment@hhsnassaucounty.ny.us, fax: 516-227-8363

Edward P. Mangano, County Executive
John E. Imhof, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEWSDAY PROOF

Customer: NASSAU CTY. DEPT. OF SOCIAL Contact: THOMAS BROOKS Phone: 5162277460

Ad Number: 16677002 Start Date: 05/14/2011 End Date: 05/14/2011 Times: 1

Price: \$356.00 Size: 2 x 46 Section: CL Class: 11100

Printed By: L004 Date: 05/19/2011

Signature of Approval: _____ Date: _____

Zones: