

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eligibility screening	County Child Care Council of Dutchess	\$63,997
<input type="checkbox"/> Assistance in locating care		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Information Systems		
<input type="checkbox"/> Determining if legally-exempt providers meet State approved additional local standards (if applicable)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	County Child Care Council of Dutchess	\$72,384

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 CFSP. 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	
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	
b) homeless	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
c) a victim of domestic violence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
d) in an emergency situation of short duration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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	
4. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed because the child's caretaker:		
a) is physically or mentally incapacitated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
b) has family duties away from home	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
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:		
a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	

<p>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</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>h) a prevocational skill training program such as, a basic education and literacy training program</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<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>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>9. PA recipients and 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 associates degree or a certificate of completion 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>10. 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>11. 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 a program to train workers in a employment field that currently is or is likely to be in demand in the near 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 potion of the day the caretaker is able to document is directly related to the caretaker engaging in such a program.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

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": **1.5 miles walking distance one-way. 1.5 hours travel time one way when public or private transportation is available. Due to lack of adequate public transportation and rural nature of roadways the Director of Eligibility or the Employment Coordinator can grant exceptions.**

Describe any steps/consultations made to arrive at your definition: **The Department has seen historically that in most cases childcare could be located within defined distances.**

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 **150%** 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 **20%**.

Note: Make sure the % selected here matches the % selected in Appendix F.

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.

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

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 County will track the availability of funds. When it is anticipated that we may run out of funds the County at its option will adjust the income level percentage rate to less than 200% of the poverty level and we will also adjust the Family share percentage rate. Putnam County is aware that adjusting family share requires a plan amendment. In determining the adjusted levels and family share percentage per household size will be done bases on the needs of our population.

Families whose cases were closed due to insufficient funds will be placed on a waiting list. Families on this list will be given priority over applicants and their cases will be opened in the following order:

- **Families that have children with special needs**
- **Employed families whose income is at or below 150% of the State Income Standard (SIS)**
- **Local priorities listed on Appendix G-5 (Rank 1 having the highest priority)**
- **Employed families whose income is above 150% of the SIS**
- **All other eligible families will be opened on a first come first serve basis**

Applicants that request to be put on the waiting list or applicants that have been denied child care assistance due to insufficient funds will be put on a waiting list. Once all families whose cases were closed due to insufficient funds have been addressed the applicants on the waiting list will be opened in the following order:

- **Families that have children with special needs**
- **Employed families whose income is at or below 150% of the State Income Standard (SIS)**
- **Local priorities listed on Appendix G-5 (Rank 1 having the highest priority)**
- **Employed families whose income is above 150% of the SIS**
- **All other eligible families will be opened on a first come first serve basis**

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.

- **Self-employed but without tax return or adequate business records**
- **Working off the books (currently), without employers verification**
- **No documentation to verify his/her identity when documentation is suspect or there is evidence that contradicts the documentation the applicant has provided**
- **Documents or information provided are inconsistent with application, such as different name used for signature**

The Day Care worker is responsible to refer all issues of dispute or complaints received, written, verbal or anonymous, in writing to the legal department for investigation.

If the day care worker determines an overpayment or ineligibility for past payments a written referral to the legal department is mandated for pursuit of collection of assistance incorrectly granted.

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.

The district obtains verification of participation in employment, education or other required activities for all applicants requesting subsidized day care services at all initial applications and at recertification every 6 months.

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.

Putnam currently has approximately 18 providers who are not day care centers in the CACFP program. We subcontract with the Child Care Council of Dutchess to do food program inspections. The Council forwards the attendance forms from each inspection to the Department where annually 15 of the 18 providers are selected for a point in time review. The day care worker will contact the Council and request a list of 2 providers that had site visits done that month along with the names of the subsidy children present at the time of the visit. The day care worker will then compare that information to the attendance forms for the provider to verify that DSS was billed correctly. Any discrepancies will be referred in writing to the Legal Department for further action.

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 its 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 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 and the training has been verified by the legally-exempt care giver enrollment agency (complete Appendix G-11).
11. 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).

APPENDIX G-4 (continued)

- 12. 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).
- 13. Our district has chosen to include 18, 19 or 20 year olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix G-12).
- 14. 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).
- 15. Our district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non public assistance families, complete Appendix G-12).
- 16. 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).

**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

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	6	3	9
Base period	6	9	15

List reasons for absences for which the district will allow payment:

Absences are allowed if the child is absent from care due to illness or extenuating circumstances.

List any limitations on the above providers' eligibility for payment for 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:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Day Care Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Legally Exempt Group |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group Family Day Care | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Age Child Care |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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

Enter the number of days allowed for program closures (maximum allowable program closures is five days). 5 days provider must notify district in writing of the 5 holidays it wishes to include

List the allowable program closures for which the district will provide payment.

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

APPENDIX G-11
TRANSPORTATION, DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENT RATES, ENHANCED
MARKET RATES FOR LEGALLY EXEMPT, 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.

Client must demonstrate inability to access transportation with a plan to access transportation within a three month period from date of authorization. Transportation must not exceed \$60.00 per day and must be with a DSS contracted or authorized transportation service.

Differential Payment Rates

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

Accredited Programs may receive a differential payment up to **15%** above market rate.

Care during non-traditional hours may be paid up to **15%** above market rate.

Limitations to the above differentials are as follows: **must be accredited by a nationally recognized organization. Non-traditional hours are described, as evenings, early mornings, nights and weekends. Between 7am and 6pm are traditional for purposed of this definition. Limited to 8 hours per day with documentation from employer as to exact days and hours worked.**

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.

Enhanced Market Rate For Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Child Care Providers

If a district elects 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 annually completed 10 or more hours of training and the training has been verified by the legally-exempt care giver enrollment agency. The district must state the percentage above the market rate it proposes to use.

Our district is requesting to increase the legally-exempt enhanced market rate up to ___percent of the applicable registered family day care market rate. Market rate may not exceed 75 percent (75%) of the child care market rates established for registered family day care.

A district that selects the option to increase the legally-exempt enhanced market rate must select one of the options listed below for implementation of the legally-exempt enhanced market rate:

for all legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers that have been approved by the applicable legally-exempt caregiver enrollment agency; or

for those legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who were receiving the enhanced rate on the date of the regulations, but only for the remainder of their current one-year enrollment period; or

for those legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who were receiving the enhanced rate on the date of the regulations, for the remainder of the time they remain enrolled and continue to meet the ten-hour annual training requirement.

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:

Limited to 8 hours per day with documentation from employer as to exact days and hours worked.

Indicate the number of hours allowed by your district (maximum number of hours allowed is eight). **8**

**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. Check below under what circumstances the district will pay for child care exceeding 24 hours.

- on a short term basis
 the caretaker's approved activity necessitates care 24 hours on a limited basis

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

Limited to 48 consecutive hours, If more hours are required, documentation must be submitted and approval by the Director of Services would be required.

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. **If child is attending High School and if not in high school they will not be included in services unit nor would any of their income be budgeted. However, in the event of funding running low at the County's option the 18 year old can be included in the services unit and there income budgeted for income levels. Putnam County is aware that action would require a plan amendment. Since this action effects eligibility the amendment must include a public notice and allow for a 30-day comment period. At the end of the comment period a written request will be sent to the Bureau requesting a plan amendment.**

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.

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).

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

**APPENDIX H
2011 ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE
CHECKLIST
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT – LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
SERVICES**

Putnam County

All Local Department of Social Services are required to complete this checklist. For each item below, please indicate by marking “YES” or “NO” whether there are any changes to report. For each item that is answered ”YES” or where a “NO” response is not an option, a written response is required clearly indicating what has changed and reason for the change. Responses should be attached on separate page and added at the end of this appendix. Please note that Appendix G-1 must be completed by all local districts.

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	
		I. Financing Process
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a. General Information
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b. Purchase of Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c. Performance or Outcome Based Provisions
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	II. Monitoring Procedures
		III. Appendices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. Appendix A – Legal Assurances (REQUIRED)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	b. Appendix B – Summary of Memorandum of Understanding with the District Attorney’s Office for Child Protective Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c. Appendix C – Estimate of Persons to be Served
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. Appendix D – Non-Residential Services to Victims of Domestic Violence
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	e. Appendix E – Chafee Foster Care Independence Program Use of Allocations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	f. Appendix F – Department of Social Services – Program Information Matrix (REQUIRED)
		g. Appendix G – Child Care
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Appendix G-1 – Administration
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Appendix G-2 – Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Appendix G-3 – Reasonable Distance, Very Low Income, Family Share, Case Closings and Case Openings, and Fraud and Abuse Control Activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Appendix G-4 – Districts Options
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Appendix G-5 – Priority Populations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. Appendix G-6 – Funding Set-Asides
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Appendix G-7 – Title XX Child Care

- 8. Appendix G-8 – Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers
- 9. Appendix G-9 – Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences
- 10. Appendix G-10 – Payment for Child Care Providers for Program Closures
- 11. Appendix G-11 – Transportation, Differential Payment Rates, and Sleep
- 12. Appendix G-12 – Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Service Unit, Waivers, Break in Activities