



Office of Children
and Family Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Acting Commissioner

October 28, 2015

John F. O'Neill, Commissioner
Suffolk County Department of Social Services
3085 Veterans Memorial Highway
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Dear Commissioner O'Neill:

This letter is in response to your request to amend Suffolk County's 2015 Child and Family Services Plan Annual Plan Update. Suffolk 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 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 an changes in such information.

This request has been approved and is effective October 28, 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