

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
New York State Office of Children and Family Services

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) will hold three public hearings on New York State's proposed two-year plan to receive assistance under the Social Security Act and the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, also known as the Child Care and Development Fund. The state's proposed plan will cover the period of 10/1/09-9/30/11.

The purpose of this federal block grant program is to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care services. Federal funds would be available to assist New York State in supporting subsidies for child day care services to low-income families upon the plan's approval by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Funding also would be available for improving the quality of child day care services and increasing the availability of early childhood development programs, as well as before and after school services.

Pursuant to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, the public is invited to provide input into the development of the final plan. Areas for comment include program priorities for child care and suggested avenues for local input in shaping the state's child care agenda. Information about the state's proposed two-year child care plan is available on the OCFS website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/CCDFStatePlan. Members of the public can e-mail comments to: CCDFStatePlan@ocfs.state.ny.us.

Persons interested in providing oral testimony during the public hearings must register their intent to do so five days prior to the public hearing with the Division of Child Care Services, Office of Children and Family Services, 52 Washington Street, Room 309 South, Rensselaer, New York 12144. People can also register by calling (518) 473-6233, or by submitting the registration form posted on the OCFS website: www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/CCDFStatePlan. Oral testimony is limited to ten minutes in length and must be followed up with written testimony within five days after the hearing. Persons interested only in submitting written comments must mail such comments within five days after the public hearing to the Division of Child Care Services, attention Diane Libruk, at the address above.

The hearings are scheduled as follows:

Date: May 5, 2009
Time: 10 am to 2 pm
Place: NYS Office of Children and Family Services
Room 102, South Building
52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, New York 12144

Date: May 12, 2009
Time: 11 am to 3 pm
Place: Child Care Council, Inc.
595 Blossom Road
Rochester, New York 14620

Date: May 15, 2009
Time: 10 am to 2 pm
Place: NYC Administration for Children's Services
66 John St., 4th Floor Conference Room
New York, NY 10038