

EMERGENCY JUSTIFICATION

This emergency rule is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare of families in New York state. Despite continuous efforts to alleviate the child care crisis throughout New York state, many families remain unable to obtain affordable, reliable care for their children. Further, child care providers need to be paid promptly for the services they provide. Revisions are being made to Title 18 NYCRR Parts 404 and 415 in an effort to combat this statewide child care crisis for both families and providers on an immediate basis.

This rule will expand eligibility under the New York State Child Care Block Grant Program, shorten the time frame within which districts must process claims, and implement additional program integrity measures. This rule is necessary to implement revisions to Social Services Law 410-w, which will take effect on March 31, 2023, allowing districts the option to authorize child care assistance for 24 months. Additionally, this rule revises companion regulations time frames to align with the implementation of 24-month eligibility. These revisions will combat the statewide crisis and continue to stabilize the child care assistance program by giving both providers and families continuity of care.