

OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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| INFORMATIONAL LETTER | TRANSMITTAL: 99 OCFS INF-2
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DIVISION: Development and Preventive Services
TO: Commissioners of Social Services

DATE: February 1, 1999

SUBJECT: Market Rate Survey

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Services
Directors of Income Maintenance
Accounting Supervisors
Child Care Supervisors and Staff
Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Eileen Mahoney, Bureau of Early Childhood Services. OFISLINK USER ID SVC109

ATTACHMENTS: No attachments

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
96 ADM-3		415.9			

OCFS-4614EL (Rev. 11/98)

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The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to solicit input from social services districts regarding the child care market rate survey which the Office will be conducting.

Under federal Child Care and Development Fund requirements, the State has to implement payment rates that are adequate to ensure equal access to child care. Federal regulations require that the method to arrive at reimbursement rates is to conduct a survey of child care providers. In addition, the federal regulations prescribe that the Office must review the local market rates and, if appropriate, make adjustments to such rates effective with the beginning of the next State CCDF Plan, October 1, 1999.

In order to collect the data necessary to review the market rates, the Office will survey all registered family day care providers, licensed group family day care providers, licensed day care centers, and registered school-aged child care programs.

Social services districts are encouraged to make recommendations concerning the type of data to be collected as part of the survey and how market rates should be structured. We are interested in input on data which may have value in establishing rates as well as data which does not directly impact rate setting methodology but has immediate relevancy to the delivery of child care services. We are also interested whether the structure of the rates (by age, type of care and length of time that care is provided) still serves a purpose for social services districts.

In order to be considered during the development of the next market rate survey, such recommendations should be submitted in writing no later than February 22, 1999. Comments or suggestions may be sent on-line to OFISLINK User ID SVC109 or mailed to:

Ms. Eileen Mahoney
Office of Children and Family Services
Bureau of Early Childhood Services
40 North Pearl Street Floor 11-B
Albany, New York 12243-0001

If you have questions regarding this survey of market rates, please call Eileen Mahoney, Bureau of Early Childhood Services at (518) 473-0711.

Donald K. Smith
Deputy Commissioner