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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – 2023 Child Care Market Rate Survey

General

01. What is the Market Rate Survey? A market rate survey is an examination of fees that child care providers typically charge and parents typically pay per unit of care (for example, per week or per day) in the priced child care market. Every few years, the Office of Children and Family Services conducts a survey of the price of child care across the state of New York. This information is used to update child care assistance (subsidy) payment rates, so the payment rates reflect local prices.
02. How do I access the 2023 Market Rate Survey? All providers will receive an email from the Office of Children and Family Services with an individual link to access the survey.
03. What if I did not receive the Market Rate Survey email invitation? You may not be eligible to participate in the survey. The survey includes all licensed and registered providers, as well as group day care programs in NYC that are issued permits by NYC DOHMH. The survey does not include legally-exempt child care providers. If you believe you are an eligible provider, but you did not receive the email invitation, first check your junk, quarantine, and spam email folders. If you still cannot locate the invitation, please send an email to: ocfs.sm.marketratesurvey@ocfs.ny.gov
04. How is the information I enter into the survey used? The primary purpose of the survey is to update the payment rates for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). OCFS will prepare, and make publicly available, a final report with the survey results. OCFS may use the survey data to inform the CCDF State Plan as well as policy questions or planning. Your individual responses will not be shared with anyone other than the staff who will be data entering and processing the survey results.
05. Can I take the survey more than once? No. The survey can only be submitted once per invitation link.
06. Can I edit my answers or go back into the survey? If you need to get more information midway through the survey, you can use the link contained in the email invitation to return to the survey; picking up where you left off. But, once



you submit the completed survey, it is closed and no longer available for edits.

07. How long will it take me to complete the survey?

The survey is estimated to take 15 minutes or less to complete.

08. What information do I need in order to complete the survey?

Just like past Child Care Market Rate Surveys, you will be asked what you charge for child care for different ages of children, by day, week, month or year and how many children are in your care.

The survey also includes new questions about how much it costs to operate your program, such as personnel costs (salary, health insurance, etc.) and building costs (rent, utilities, etc.).

09. How can I get help filling out the survey?

Reach out to your Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) if you need assistance completing the survey. <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php>

10. How are age groups defined in the survey?

Infant, toddler, preschool, and school age child are defined based on the CCAP market rate categories for calculating payments. Infants are up to 18 months of age for day care centers, and up to 24 months of age for home-based providers (family day care and group family day care). Toddlers are 18 to 36 months of age for day care centers, and 2 years of age for home-based providers (family day care and group family day care). Preschoolers are 3 to 5 years of age. School aged children are 6 to 12 years of age.

11. Is the survey available in languages other than English?

The 2023 Market Rate Survey is available in English and Spanish. At the top of the survey, there is a link to change the language to Spanish.

12. Who do I contact if I have questions?

You can send an email to: ocfs.sm.marketratesurvey@ocfs.ny.gov