

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX K #1
Child Care Amendments

Is your district amending its Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) or Annual Plan Update (APU)?

Yes (Check “Yes” or “No” for each Appendix listed below to indicate whether or not there was an amendment to that Appendix. If the Appendix was amended, check “Yes” or “No” to indicate the section that was amended.)

No (If this box is checked, no further action is needed on this Appendix)

Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix K #2 - Child Care Administration</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix L – Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix M #1 - Reasonable Distance, Recertification Period, Family Share, Very Low Income, Federal and Local Priorities (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you’ve checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Reasonable Distance <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Recertification Period <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Family Share <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Very Low Income <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>V. Federal and Local Priorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix M #2 – Case Openings, Case Closings, and Waiting List (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Case Openings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Case Closings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Waiting List <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix M #3 – Fraud and Abuse Control Activities and Inspections (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Fraud and Abuse Control Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Inspections <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix N – District Options (Required)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix O – Funding Set-Asides (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix P – Title XX Child Care (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix Q - Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

Appendix	Section
<p>Appendix R – Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix S – Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>Appendix T – Transportation, Differential Payment Rates, Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers, and Sleep (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Differential Payment Rates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Sleep <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Appendix U – Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, Waivers, and Breaks in Activities (Optional)</p> <p>Are there changes to this appendix?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have checked “Yes,” check all of the sections that changed or did not change to the right of this box. 	<p>I. Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>II. Child Care Services Unit <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>III. Waivers <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>IV. Breaks in Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX K #2
Child Care Administration

I. Describe how your district is organized to administer the child care program, including any functions that are subcontracted to an outside agency.

1. Identify the unit that has primary responsibility for the administration of child care for:

- a.** Public Assistance Families: Day Care Unit
- b.** Transitioning Families: Day Care Unit
- c.** Income Eligible Families: Day Care Unit
- d.** Title XX: Day Care Unit

2. Provide the following information on the use of New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG) Funds.

- a.** FFY 2015-2016 Rollover funds (available from the NYSCCBG ceiling report in the claiming system)\$881,948.00
- b.** Estimate FFY 2016-2017 Rollover Funds\$304,897.00
- c.** Estimate of Flexible Funds for Family Services transferred to the NYSCCBG\$0.00
- d.** NYSCCBG Allocation 2017\$3,057,577.00
- e.** Estimate of Local Share\$164,819.00
- Total Estimated NYSCCBG Amount** \$3,939,525.00
- f.** Subsidy \$0.00
- g.** Other program costs excluding subsidy\$0.00
- h.** Administrative costs \$0.00

3. Does your district have a contract or formal agreement with another organization to perform any of the following functions using the NYSCCBG?

Function	Organization	Amount of Contract
a. <input type="checkbox"/> Subsidy eligibility screening		
b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Determining if legally-exempt providers meet OCFS-approved additional local standards	Capital District Child Care Council	\$130,829.00
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assistance in locating care	Capital District Child Care Council	\$130,829.00
d. <input type="checkbox"/> Child care information systems		
e. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment processing		
f. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify:		

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX L

Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available (Required)

I. Listed below are the optional categories of eligible families that your district can include as part of its County Plan. Select any categories your district wants to serve using the NYSCCBG funds and describe any limitations associated with the category.

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
1. Public Assistance (PA) families participating in an approved activity in addition to their required work activity.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
2. PA families or families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child to be protected because the caretaker is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="250 793 906 863">a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program <li data-bbox="250 1062 418 1094">b) homeless <li data-bbox="250 1146 906 1215">c) a victim of domestic violence and participating in an approved activity <li data-bbox="250 1268 850 1299">d) in an emergency situation of short duration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="938 793 1029 863"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <li data-bbox="938 1062 1029 1131"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <li data-bbox="938 1146 1029 1215"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <li data-bbox="938 1268 1029 1337"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 	<p>For PA families only when assessed as necessary. For non-PA where caretaker has been court ordered and caretaker must be employed.</p> <p>Family has 30 days to locate housing.</p> <p>For caretaker who is in a shelter only has 30 days to locate housing.</p> <p>1 parent household- 60 days or less incapacitated due to medical reasons. i.e. surgery, illness, doctors notes required.</p>
3. Families with an open child protective services case when child care is needed to protect the child.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Determined by the caseworker.
4. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child to be protected because the child’s caretaker:		
a) is physically or mentally incapacitated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Case must be opened. We will pay for 30 days with verification of incapacitation.
b) has family duties away from home	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>5. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child’s caretaker to actively seek employment for a period up to six months. Child care services will be available only for the portion of the day the family is able to document is directly related to the caretaker engaging in such activities.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>6. PA families where a sanctioned parent or caretaker relative is participating in unsubsidized employment, earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount under law.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>TANF Child Care worker is responsible for verifying the employment and reporting income to FA worker.</p>
<p>7. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child’s caretaker to participate in:</p> <p>a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district</p> <p>b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma</p> <p>c) a program providing basic remedial education in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and oral communications for individuals functioning below the ninth month of the eighth grade level</p> <p>d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write</p> <p>e) an English as a second language (ESL) instructional program designed to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing the English language for individuals whose primary language is other than English</p> <p>f) a two-year full-time degree granting program at a community college, a two-year college, or</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Caretaker 19 years or less to attend high school or GED classes must have date of completion.</p>

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<p>an undergraduate college with a specific vocational goal leading to an associate’s degree or certificate of completion</p> <p>g) a training program, which has a specific occupational goal and is conducted by an institution other than a college or university that is licensed or approved by the State Education Department</p> <p>h) a prevocational skill training program such as a basic education and literacy training program</p> <p>i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor</p> <p>Note: The caretaker must complete the selected programs listed under Section 7 above within 30 consecutive calendar months. The caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>8. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a two-year program other than one with a specific vocational sequence (leading to an associate’s degree or certificate of completion and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker’s earning capacity) as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>9. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a two-year college or university program (other than one with a specific vocational sequence) leading to an associate’s degree or a certificate of completion that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker’s earning capacity as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>10. PA recipients or low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a four-year</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<p>college or university program leading to a bachelor’s degree and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the caretaker’s earning capacity as long as the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>		
<p>11. Families with incomes up to the 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child’s caretaker to participate in a program to train workers in an employment field that currently is or is likely to be in demand in the future, if the caretaker documents that he or she is a dislocated worker and is currently registered in such a program, provided that child care services are only used for the portion of the day the caretaker is able to document is directly related to the caretaker engaging in such a program.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX M #1

Reasonable Distance, Recertification Period, Family Share, Very Low Income, Federal and Local Priorities (Required)

I. Reasonable Distance

Define “reasonable distance” based on community standards for determining accessible child care.

1. The following defines “reasonable distance”:

The maximum amount of travel time is two hours each way. Mode of transportation and distance must be considered when calculating the maximum amount of travel time.

2. Describe any steps/consultations made to arrive at your definition:

Consultations with CDTA as well as with clients to determine the amount of time it takes to get from the two furthest points of the county using public transportation.

II. Recertification Period

The district’s recertification period for low income child care cases is every (select one):

six months twelve months

III. Family Share

“Family Share” is the weekly amount paid towards the costs of the child care services by the child’s parent or caretaker. Your district must select a family share percentage from 10% to 35% to use in calculating the amount of family share. The weekly family share of child care costs is calculated by applying the family share percentage against the amount of the family’s annual gross income that is in excess of the State Income Standard divided by 52.

Family Share Percentage selected by the district 25%.

Note: *The family share percentage selected here must match the percentage entered in the Program Matrix in the Welfare Management System (WMS).*

IV. Very Low Income

Define “very low income” as it is used in determining priorities for child care benefits.

“Very Low Income” is defined as 160% of the State Income Standard.

V. Federal and Local Priorities

1. The district must rank the federally mandated priorities. Cases that are ranked 1 have the highest priority for receiving child care assistance. These rankings apply to case closings and case openings.

a. Very low income as defined in Section IV: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3

b. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard that have a child with special needs and a need for child care: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3

c. Families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard that are experiencing homelessness: Rank 1 Rank 2 Rank 3

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

3. Does the district have local priorities?

Yes No

If yes, list below and rank beginning with Rank 4.

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX M #2

Case Openings, Case Closings, and Waiting List (Required)

I. Case Openings When Funds Are Limited

If a social services district does not have sufficient funds to provide child care services to all families who are applying, the district may decide to open certain categories of families as funds become available. The district must open federal priorities first. If the district identified local priorities, they must be opened next. **After the federal and local priorities**, identify the basis upon which the district will open cases if funds become available. Check only **ONE** of the options listed below and describe the process for opening.

1. Open based on **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED**.
2. Open based on **INCOME**. Check one of the boxes below:
 - The district will open cases starting from the lowest income to the highest income.
 - The district will open cases based on income bands, starting from the lowest income band to the highest income band. List the income bands, starting from the band that will be opened first:

We will open cases based on income bands, starting from the lowest income band to the highest. The first income band to be opened will be 100-160% and the second income band that will be opened is 161-200%.
3. Open based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List below the remaining category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(2) and 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(3) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be opened first.
4. Open based on **INCOME AND CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List below the incomes (from lowest to highest income) or income bands (from lowest income band to highest income band), and the remaining category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(2) and 18 NYCRR §415.2(a)(3) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be opened first.
5. Open based on **OTHER CRITERIA**.

Describe the criteria the district will use to select cases to be opened:

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

II. Case Closings When Sufficient Funds Are Not Available

If a social services district does not have sufficient funds to continue to provide child care assistance to all families in its current caseload, the district may decide to discontinue child care assistance to certain categories of families. The district must close federal priorities last. If the district identified local priorities, they must be closed next to last. **After the federal and local priorities**, describe the basis upon which the district will close cases if sufficient funds are not available.

If no priorities are established beyond the federally mandated priorities and all funds are committed, case closings for families that are not eligible under a child care guarantee and are not under a federally mandated priority must be based on the length of time they have received services (must choose #1 below).

Check only **one** of the options for closing listed below and describe the process for closing.

1. Close based on **AMOUNT OF TIME** receiving child care services.

Check **one** of the boxes below:

- The district will close cases starting from the shortest time receiving child care services to the longest time.
- The district will close cases starting from the longest time receiving child care services to the shortest time.

2. Close based on **INCOME**.

Check **one** of the boxes below:

- The district will close cases starting from the highest income to the lowest income.
- The district will close cases based on income bands, starting from the highest income band to the lowest income band. List the income bands starting from the band that will be closed first:

The first income band that will be closed is 161-200% and the second band that will be closed is 100-160%.

3. Close based on **CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List the category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be closed.

4. Close based on **INCOME AND CATEGORY OF FAMILY**.

List below the incomes (from the highest to lowest income) or income bands (from the highest income band to the lowest income band), and the category 2 and 3 families included in 18 NYCRR §415.2(a) that are not federal or local priorities in the order they will be closed.

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

5. Close based on **OTHER CRITERIA**.

Describe the criteria the district will use to select cases to be closed:

III. Waiting List

The district will establish a waiting list when there are not sufficient funds to open all eligible cases.

No.

Yes.

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX M #3

Fraud and Abuse Control Activities and Inspections (Required)

I. Fraud and Abuse Control Activities

1. Describe below the criteria the district will use to determine which child care subsidy applications suggest a higher than acceptable risk for fraudulent or erroneous child care subsidy payments in addition to procedures for referring such applications to the district's front-end detection system.

We currently have two types of referrals used to refer cases to our Special Investigation Unit. The first type of referral is the Absent Parent Referral. This referral is made when a parent abruptly leaves the home with no forwarding address. The second type of referral is the FEDS Investigation Referral. This referral is a front end detection referral and it is made when risk factors are present, risk factors such as a history of fraud, inconsistent applications, inconsistent billing information, persons who recently moved to Rensselaer County, apparent forgery, or a P.O. Box without an adequate explanation.

2. Describe the sampling methodology used to determine which cases will require verification of an applicant's or recipient's continued need for child care, including, as applicable, verification of participation in employment, education, or other required activities.

The Department uses information received from our Fraud Department to determine if further employment verification is needed. The Department also looks at applicants with risk factors such as an unstable employment history, a history of fraud, over-payments, inconsistent household composition, returned mail, inconsistent absent parent information, caregivers that are unable to be contacted at work, questionable documents, and any other inconsistencies that would warrant additional verification.

In situations where the above risk factors are present, employers could be contacted, a fraud referral would be made, there could be collateral contact made, or a face to face meeting would be arranged.

This process of recognizing "red flags" and initiating further investigations has resulted in quality control beyond the normal eligibility determination.

3. Describe the sampling methodology used to determine which providers of subsidized child care services will be reviewed for the purpose of comparing the child care provider's attendance forms for children receiving subsidized child care services with any Child and Adult Care Food Program inspection forms to verify that child care was actually provided on the days listed on the attendance forms.

Child care subsidy attendance forms will be compared with adult and child care food program (CACFP) inspection forms for all providers that participate in CACFP to verify that child care was actually provided on the days listed on the attendance forms. The Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council will secure the inspection form records from providers that participate in CACFP and meet with the supervisor of the daycare unit to compare them with the subsidy attendance records. This will be done quarterly with all providers that participate in CACFP and care for subsidized children.

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

II. Inspections of Child Care Provider Records and Premises

The district may choose to make announced or unannounced inspections of the records and premises of any provider/program that provides child care for subsidized children for the purpose of determining whether the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the social services district per 18 NYCRR §415.4(h)(3).

The district has the right to make inspections *prior to subsidized children receiving care* of any child care provider, including care in a home, to determine whether the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the district.

The district must report violations of regulations as follows:

- Violations by a licensed or registered child care provider must be reported to the applicable Office of Children and Families (OCFS) Regional Office.
- Violations by an enrolled or enrolling legally-exempt child care provider must be reported to the applicable Enrollment Agency.

1. Does the district choose to make inspections of such child care providers/programs?

No.

Yes. Provide the details of your inspections plan below.

a. The following *types* of subsidized child care providers/programs are subject to this requirement:

Legally-Exempt Child Care

In-Home

Family Child Care

Group programs not operating under the auspices of another government agency

Group programs operating under the auspices of another government agency

Licensed or Registered Child Care

Family Day Care

Registered School-Age Child Care

Group Family Day Care

Day Care Centers

Small Day Care Centers

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX N

District Options (Required)

- I.** Districts have some flexibility to administer their child care subsidy programs to meet local needs. Districts must complete Question 1 below. Note that all districts must complete the differential payment rate table in Appendix T.
- 1.** The district selects (check one):
- none of the options below one or more of the options below
- II.** Districts must check the options that will be included in the district's county plan and complete the appropriate appendix for any option checked below.
- 1.** The district has chosen to establish funding set-asides for NYSCCBG (complete Appendix O).
 - 2.** The district has chosen to use Title XX funds for the provision of child care services (complete Appendix P).
 - 3.** The district has chosen to establish additional local standards for child care providers (complete Appendix Q).
 - 4.** The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for absences (complete Appendix R).
 - 5.** The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers for program closures (complete Appendix S).
 - 6.** The district has chosen to pay for transportation to and from a child care provider (complete Appendix T).
 - 7.** The district has chosen to pay up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates for licensed or registered child care providers that have been accredited by a nationally recognized child care organization (complete Appendix T).
 - 8.** The district has chosen to pay a differential rate above the required 5%, up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates for child care services during non-traditional hours (complete Appendix T).
 - 9.** The district has chosen to pay a differential rate for child care providers caring for children experiencing homelessness above the required differential amount (complete Appendix T).
 - 10.** The district has chosen to pay up to 75% of the enhanced market rate for legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who have completed 10 hours of training, which has been verified by the Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency (complete Appendix T).
 - 11.** The district has chosen to pay for child care services while a caretaker who works the second or third shift sleeps (complete Appendix T).

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

12. The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services exceeding 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix U).
13. The district has chosen to include 18-, 19- or 20-year-olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix U).
14. The district requests a waiver from one or more regulatory provisions. Waivers are limited to those regulatory standards that are not specifically included in law (complete Appendix U).
15. The district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non-public assistance families). Complete Appendix U.
16. The district has chosen to use local equivalent(s) of OCFS required form(s). Prior to using a local equivalent form the district must obtain OCFS, Division of Child Care Services (DCCS) written approval. ***Any previous approvals for local equivalent forms will not be carried forward into this county plan. Therefore, any local equivalent forms a district wishes to establish or renew must be included in this plan and will be subject to review and approval by OCFS.***

If the district elects to use the OCFS-6025, *Application for Child Care Assistance*, and makes no changes other than adding the district name and contact information, the district only needs to inform OCFS DCCS that it will be using the OCFS-6025.

List below the names and attach copies of the local equivalent form(s) that the district would like to use.

Rensselaer County will be using OCFS-6025.

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX O
 Funding Set-Asides (Optional)

I. Total NYSCCBG Block Grant Amount, Including Local Funds

Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$

Total Set-Asides (NYSCCBG)\$

1. Describe the rationale behind specific set-aside amounts from the NYSCCBG (e.g., estimated number of children) for each category.

Category:
 Description:

Category:
 Description:

Category:
 Description:

Category:
 Description:

II. The following amounts are set aside for specific priorities from the Title XX block grant:

Category:\$
 Category:\$
 Category:\$

Total Set-Asides (Title XX).....\$

1. Describe the rationale behind specific amounts set aside from the Title XX block grant (e.g., estimated number of children) for each category.

Category:
 Description:

Category:
 Description:

Category:
 Description:

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX P

Title XX Child Care (Optional)

1. Enter the projected total of Title XX expenditures for the plan's duration:

Indicate the financial eligibility limits (percentage of State Income Standard) your district will apply based on family size. Maximum reimbursable limits are 275% for a family of one or two, 255% for a family of three, and 225% for a family of four or more. Districts that are utilizing Title XX funds *only* for child protective and/or preventive child care services must not enter financial eligibility limits as these services are offered without regard to income.

Family Size: (2) % (3) % (4) %

2. Programmatic Eligibility for Income Eligible Families (Check all that apply.)

- Title XX: employment education/training
 seeking employment illness/incapacity
 homelessness domestic violence
 emergency situation of short duration
 participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program

3. Does the district apply any limitations to the programmatic eligibility criteria?

Yes No

(See Technical Assistance #1 for information on limiting eligibility.)

If yes, describe eligibility criteria:

4. Does the district prioritize certain eligible families for Title XX funding?

Yes No

If yes, describe which families will receive priority:

5. Does the district use Title XX funds for child care for open child protective services cases?

Yes No

6. Does the district use Title XX funds for child care for open child preventive services cases?

Yes No

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX Q

Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers (Optional)

- I. The district may propose local standards in addition to the State standards for legally-exempt providers who will receive child care subsidies issued by the district. This appendix must be completed for **each** additional local standard that the district wants to implement.

The district must coordinate with the local Enrollment Agency, including, but not limited to:

- Informing the Enrollment Agency of the intent to request an additional standard.
- Developing the stepwise process referenced in Question 5.
- Ensuring that no significant burden of work shall be incurred by the Enrollment Agency as a result of the additional local standard, unless such work is addressed in a separate contract or a formal agreement is in place, which are referenced in Question 3.
- Sharing any consent/release form that may be required.
- Keeping the Enrollment Agency informed of the approval status.

1. Check or describe in the space provided below the additional local standards that will be required of child care providers/programs.

- Verification, using the district's local records, that the provider has given the caretaker complete and accurate information regarding any report of child abuse or maltreatment in which he or she is named as an indicated subject
- Local criminal background check
- Require providers caring for subsidized children for 30 or more hours a week participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). *Note that districts are required to notify the Enrollment Agency, using the OCFS-2114, District Notification to Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency, of all providers on the referral list for whom the requirement is "not applicable."*
- Site visits by the district
- Other (please describe):

2. Check below the type of child care program to which the additional local standard will apply and indicate the roles of the persons to whom it will apply in cases where the standard is person-specific.

- Legally-exempt family child care program. Check all that apply.
- Provider Provider's Employee Provider's Volunteer
 Provider's household member age 18 or older

- Legally-exempt in-home child care program. Check all that apply.
- Provider Provider's Employee Provider's Volunteer

- Legally-exempt group provider/program not operating under the auspices of another government agency. Check all that apply.
- Provider/Director Provider's Employee Provider's Volunteer

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

- Legally-exempt group provider/program operating under the auspices of another government or tribal agency. Check all that apply.
- Provider/Director Provider’s Employee Provider’s Volunteer

2a. Exceptions: There may be instances when the district may be unable to enact the additional standard, such as, the applicable person may reside outside of the district’s jurisdiction, or the site of care may not be located within the district. In such cases, the district may create an exception to the applicability stated above.

Note: *The Child Care Facility System cannot track such exceptions and, therefore, the district remains responsible for notifying the applicable Enrollment Agency, using the OCFS-2114, District Notification to Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency, that an additional standard is “not applicable” to the specific provider/person named on the referral list.*

Place a check mark below to show any exception to the applicability of this Local Additional Standard to programs or roles previously identified.

- a. The district will not apply this additional local standard when the applicable person *resides* outside of the subsidy-paying district.
- b. The district will not apply this additional local standard when the *program’s site of care is located outside* of the subsidy-paying district.
- c. The district will not apply this additional local standard when *the informal provider is younger than 18 years* of age.

3. Districts are responsible for implementation of the additional local standard unless they have a formal agreement or contract with another organization. Check the organization that will be responsible for the implementation of the additional local standard.

Local social services staff
Provide the name of the unit and contact person:

Contracted agency
Provide the name of the agency and contact person:
Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council
Patti Mueller

4. Are there any fees or other costs associated with the additional local standard?

- Yes No

Note: *Costs associated with the additional local standard cannot be passed on to the provider.*

5. Describe, in chronological order, the steps for conducting the additional local standard. Include how the district will retrieve referrals from CCFS, communicate with providers

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

and other applicable persons, determine compliance with the additional local standard, inform the Enrollment Agency whether the additional local standard has been “met,” “not met”, or is “not applicable”, and monitor its timeliness. Include all agencies involved and their roles. Note that the district’s procedures must be in accordance with 12-OCFS-LCM-01.

The district will include a release form in the enrollment packets it distributes to parents which will authorize the Rensselaer County Department of Social Services to conduct a check of the local child welfare records related to the child care attestations for the sole purpose of verifying the accuracy of the information submitted to the parent/caretaker per 18 NYCRR (f)(7)(ii). The individuals specified in question #2 above will be asked to sign the release.. The records check will be required only for the types of child care specified in question #2 and will be required only to persons in the roles specified in question # 2.

The signed release(s) specified in question #2 is/are required, for all persons in the roles, for the enrollment packet to be considered complete. If any of the individuals checked in question #2 above refuses to sign the release, which would allow Rensselaer County Department of Social Services to review only the existing local child welfare records related to the child care attestations, the enrollment package will be considered incomplete and the enrollment process cannot move forward and will be withdrawn by the enrollment agency in accordance with State policy.

To initiate the additional standards check, per 12-OFS-LCM-01, the Child Care Facility System will automatically generate the E-Notice. LE-CCFS LD-003 Legally Exempt Additional Standard Referral, to inform the local district that the additional standards check must be conducted. Designated district staff must run the CCFS report, LE Additional Local Standard Referral List to obtain the list of persons subject to the additional local standard, as specified in question #2 above, to obtain specific information regarding the persons for whom Legally Exempt Additional Standard Reviews must be conducted.

The local district will conduct the check of the local database to determine whether an individual checked in question #2 above is an indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report. When the local records check reveals that an individual specified in question #2 above is an indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report the proposed child care provider will be required to submit to Rensselaer County Department of Social Services a copy of the written statement provided to the parent/caretaker concerning the indicated incident(s). This statement must be signed by the parent/caretaker acknowledging receipt of this information and the parent/caretaker's wish to use this child care provider.

If the information regarding the indicated child protective report submitted by the provider does not substantially correlate with the information obtained during the local records check related to the child care attestations, the Rensselaer County Department of Social Services will notify the provider that he or she has ten (10) calendar days to clarify the discrepancies in the information submitted to the district and parent/caretaker. Within the ten (10) calendar day period the provider must submit information to Rensselaer County Department of Social Services and the parent/caretaker that either substantially correlates with the information obtained by the district's local database check of the records related to the child care attestations or the provider submits information to the

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

district which documents that the information obtained from the local database check of the records related to the child care attestations is inaccurate.

Rensselaer County Department of Social Services will complete the OCFS 2114 and send it to the applicable EA to notify the EA of the determination, as follows:

Not Met:

- If the provider fails to clarify the discrepancies to the Rensselaer County Department of Social Services

Met:

- when the local records check does not reveal a record wherein the person was an indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report.
- If the information regarding the indicated child protective report submitted by the provider to the parent/caretaker and the local district correlates with the information obtained from the local database check and the parent/caretaker still chooses to use the provider.

6. Indicate how frequently the additional local standard will be applied. Answer both questions.

a. The Standard will be applied:

- i. At initial enrollment and re-opening
- ii. At each re-enrollment

b. The district will assess compliance with the additional local standard:

- i. *During the enrollment review period*, and, the district will notify the Enrollment Agency of the results within 25 days from the E-Notice referral date.
- ii. *During the 12-month enrollment period*, and, the district will notify the Enrollment Agency of the results promptly. Note that this option is always applicable to an additional local standard requiring participation in CACFP.

7. Describe the justification for the additional local standard in the space below.

The local district wants to make sure that providers have told parents/caretakers about known child protective histories for themselves and any other persons specified in # 2. The additional standard supports 18 NYCRR (f)(7)(ii), a State requirement for enrollment which requires the provider and relevant site persons have given the parent true and accurate information regarding indicated child protective reports. The additional standard verifies the provider is telling the truth on the enrollment form. This promotes safer child care for children by verifying that true and accurate information about a caregiver's history has been shared with the child(ren)'s parent/caretaker.

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX R

Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences (Optional)

1. The following providers are eligible for payment for absences (check all that are eligible):

- Day Care Center
- Legally-Exempt Group
- Group Family Day Care
- School-Age Child Care
- Family Day Care

2. Our district will only pay for absences to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent.

- Yes
- No

3. Base period (check one): 3 months 6 months

4. Number of absences allowed during base period:

Period	Routine Limits (# of days)	Extenuating Circumstances (# of days)	Total Number of Absences Allowed (# of days)
In a month	12	3	15
Base period	12	8	20

5. List reasons for absences for which the district will allow payment:

The district will allow 12 absences per 3 month period. Absences for children are based on extenuating circumstances or illness. If a parent chooses to use the absences in one month he or she will be responsible for any additional absences. The district will not pay for a child to be absent from one program and reimburse another nor will we pay for absences that are not temporary. For example: the child does not return to the program. Parents are required to notify the district and the provider of planned breaks in service so that payment is suspended but the child's slot is held.

6. List any limitations on the above providers' eligibility for payment for absences:

The district will not consider a child absent if the program was not open and providing care. Program closures at the discretion of the provider will not be reimbursed. Also, Providers need to sign an MOU to be paid for absences. Absences must be temporary, i.e., the child must be returning to the program.

Note: *Legally-exempt family child care and in-home child care providers are **not** eligible to receive payment for absences.*

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX S

Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures (Optional)

1. The following providers are eligible for payment for program closures:

- Day Care Center Legally-Exempt Group
- Group Family Day Care School-Age Child Care
- Family Day Care

2. The district will only pay for program closures to providers with which the district has a contract or letter of intent.

- Yes No

3. Enter the number of days allowed for program closures (maximum allowable time for program closures is five days).

4. List the allowable program closures for which the district will provide payment.

Note: *Legally-exempt family child care and in-home child care providers are **not** allowed to be reimbursed for program closures.*

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX T

Transportation, Differential Payment Rates, Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Providers, and Sleep (Optional)

I. Transportation

1. Describe any circumstances and limitations the district will use to reimburse for transportation. Include what type of transportation will be reimbursed (public and/or private) and how much your district will pay (per mile or trip). Note that if the district is paying for transportation, the Program Matrix in the Welfare Management System (WMS) should reflect this choice.

No

Yes, describe:

II. Differential Payment Rates

1. Districts must complete the Differential Payment Rate Percent (%) column in the table below for each of the four (4) differential payment rate categories. For the two (2) categories that require a state minimum five percent (5%) differential payment rate, the district must enter “5%” or, if it chooses, a higher rate up to 15%.

The other two (2) differential payment rate categories in the table below are optional. If the district chooses not to set differential payment rates, the district must enter zero. If the district chooses to set a differential payment rate, enter the appropriate percentage up to 15 percent (15%). Note that if the district selects a differential payment rate for nationally accredited programs, then that rate must be in the range of five percent (5%) to 15 percent (15%).

Differential Payment Rate Category	<i>Differential Payment Rate Percent (%)</i>	Instructions for Differential Payment Rate Percent (%) Column
Homelessness: Licensed and Registered Providers State required minimum of 5%	5%	Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. (<u>Must</u> enter at least <u>5%</u>)
Homelessness: Legally-Exempt Providers	0%	Enter 0% or a percentage (%) up to 15%.
Non-traditional Hours: All Providers State required minimum of 5%	5%	Enter a percentage (%): 5% to 15%. (<u>Must</u> enter at least <u>5%</u>)
Nationally Accredited Programs: Licensed and Registered Providers	0%	Enter 0% or a percentage (%) from 5% to 15%.

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

2. Payments may not exceed 25% above market rate. However, if your district wants to establish a payment rate that is more than 15% above the applicable market rate, describe below why the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access within the district to accredited programs or care provided during non-traditional hours and/or care provided to children experiencing homelessness.

III. Enhanced Market Rate for Legally-Exempt Family and In-Home Child Care Providers

1. Indicate if the district is electing to establish a payment rate that is in excess of the enhanced market rate for legally-exempt family and in-home child care providers who have completed 10 or more hours of training annually and the training has been verified by the legally-exempt caregiver enrollment agency.

No.

Yes. Indicate percent, not to exceed 75% of the child care market rate established for registered family day care. 75%

IV. Sleep

1. The following describes the standards the district will use to evaluate whether to pay for child care services while a caretaker that works a second or third shift sleeps, as well as any limitations pertaining to payment:

If requested, Rensselaer County will pay for a single caretaker home of children under school age for a maximum of 30 hours per week. If the daycare provider/legally exempt comes to the home and watches the children at night and during the day while the caretaker sleeps the district will pay a full time weekly rate for the night care. The care provided during the day, if provided for at least 6 hours, will be reimbursed at the full time weekly rate divided by five to determine a daily rate. If the care provided during the day is less than 6 hours per day, the part time rate will apply. If less than 3 hours, the part time rate will apply.

2. Indicate the number of hours allowed by your district per day (maximum number of hours allowed is eight).

8

RENSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

APPENDIX U

Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours, Child Care Services Unit, Waivers, and Breaks in Activities (Optional)

I. Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours

1. Child care services may exceed 24 consecutive hours when such services are provided on a short-term emergency basis or in other situations where the caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis. Check below under what circumstances the district will pay for child care exceeding 24 hours.

- On a short-term or emergency basis
- The caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis

2. Describe any limitations on the payment of child care services that exceed 24 consecutive hours.

Child care services up to or exceeding 24 hours will be paid when it is for employment purposes. For example, a medical worker doing a double shift. Verification of work hours must be verified by the client. Child care hours will be provided only for hours worked, not for on call hours.

II. Child Care Services Unit (CCSU)

1. Indicate below if your district will include 18-, 19-, or 20-year-olds in the CCSU for determining family size and countable family income.

- a. The district will include the following in the CCSU (check all that apply).

- 18-year-olds 19-year-olds 20-year-olds

OR

- b. The district will only include the following in the CCSU when it will benefit the family (check all that apply)

- 18-year-olds 19-year-olds 20-year-olds

2. Describe the criteria your district will use to determine whether or not 18-, 19-, or 20-year olds are included in the CCSU.

III. Waivers

1. Districts have the authority to request a waiver of any regulatory provision that is non-statutory. Describe and justify why your district is requesting a waiver.

IV. Breaks in Activities

1. Districts may pay for child care services for low-income families during breaks in activities either for a period not to exceed two weeks or for a period not to exceed four weeks when child care arrangements would otherwise be lost and the subsequent activity is expected to begin within that period. If your district will pay for breaks in activities, indicate below for how long of a break that the district will pay for (check one):

RENSSELAER COUNTY – 2017 APU

- Two weeks Four weeks

2. Districts may provide child care services while the caretaker is waiting to enter an approved activity or employment or on a break between approved activities. The following low-income families are eligible for child care services during a break in activities (check all that are eligible):

- a.** Entering an activity
- b.** Waiting for employment
- c.** On a break between activities