



## Office of Children and Family Services

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

DAMIA HARRIS-MADDEN, Ed.D., MBA, M.S.  
Commissioner

August 23, 2024

Dear Provider:

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is excited to share some important information on the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). Effective October 1, 2024, new child care assistance market-related payment rates (market rates) will take effect for child care services that are funded under the New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG) and the Social Services Block Grant (Title XX).

Market rates have been set at no less than the 80th percentile of the prices reported by providers on the most recent market rate survey. In some instances, the market rates were set above the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile to provide a minimum 5% increase from the 2022 market rates to allow providers to better meet health, safety, quality, and staffing requirements for high quality child care.

Please note there has been a change in the market rate groupings. Previously, local social services districts (districts) were grouped into five separate groupings. Based on the similarity of prices reported on the 2023 market rate survey and number of providers in each district; OCFS made one change to the groupings. The former groups 2 and 4 (per 22-OCFS-LCM-14) were combined into a single group of districts (now group 2). The former group 5 was made group 4 and market rates were established for these four groupings.

The market rates are posted on the OCFS website at:

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/policies/external/2024/lcm/24-OCFS-LCM-22-Att-A-CCA-Market-Rates-2024.pdf>

If you have increased your rate, and only care for children receiving child care assistance, and do not have a contract with the district, you may be able to demonstrate that the actual cost of providing care is higher than the amount you are currently being paid by the district. If you wish to request a higher payment rate, you must submit the [OCFS-6060, Child Care Provider Attestation of Costs Form](#), to your district. This form should not be returned to OCFS. If your rate is above the market rate for your area, the family receiving child care assistance would be responsible for the difference.

Districts must pay the higher rate effective either, you begin charging the increased rate after October 1, 2024, or October 1, 2024, whichever is later. For example, if you charged more than the market rate as of January 1, 2024, you would only be eligible for the increased payment amount as of October 1, 2024. However, if your rate increased on or after October 1, 2024, you would be eligible for the cost of care up to the new market rate, effective the date you increased your rate or October 1, 2024, whichever is later, upon proper documentation of this increase.

As a reminder any changes to your program, such as when you move or change modalities, must be reported to the district, and may affect the district's ability to pay you.

Adjustments to the market rate are handled by the paying district, not OCFS. You should contact the paying district with any questions, regarding the changes outlined in this letter. Contact information for each district can be found on the OCFS website at:

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/directories/localdss.php>

We appreciate providers and your valuable role in the lives of children, families, and the larger community. Thank you for your dedication to the children of New York State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nora Yates". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nora K. Yates  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Child Care Services