



**Office of Children
and Family Services**

**New York State
Child Care and Development Fund Plan
FFY 2022-2024**

Janice Molnar, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Child Care Services

Overview of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan

- The CCDF Plan = the agreement between the Lead Agency and the federal government as to how CCDF programs will be administered
- Lead Agency = OCFS
- 3-year plan: FFY 2022-2024 (for the period October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2024)



The Child Care and Development Block Act

- Passed by Congress and signed into law: November 2014
- Final rule issued September 2016.
- Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 signed into law: March 23, 2018 – makes \$5.2B available to states for implementation of CCDBG.
- In FFY 2018, New York received an additional \$95.8M. That increase has continued in recent years.
- CCDF is an \$8.7 billion block grant, of which CCDBG is one funding source.
- In 2020, NYS's CCDF allocation was \$456 million out of a total child care budget of over \$1 billion. For FFY 2021, we expect NYS's allocation to be at least the same as 2020.



Timeline

- **Draft Plan** will be posted to the OCFS website
- **Virtual Public Hearings:**
 - May 17, 2021 – 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 - May 20, 2021 – 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - May 21, 2021 – 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - May 24, 2021 – noon – 4:00 pm
- **Comments integrated** into draft Plan
- **Final draft** submitted to the federal Office of Child Care by **July 1, 2021**



Sections of the Plan

- Part 1: Define CCDF Leadership and Coordination
- Part 2: Promote Family Engagement
- Part 3: Provide Stable Child Care Financial Assistance to Families
- Part 4: Ensure Equal Access to Child Care
- Part 5: Establish Standards and Monitoring Processes
- Part 6: Recruit and Retain a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce
- Part 7: Support Continuous Quality Improvement
- Part 8: Ensure Grantee Program Integrity



Leadership and Coordination

- 1.1 CCDF Leadership
- 1.2 CCDF Policy Decision Authority
- 1.3 Consultation in the Development of the CCDF Plan
- 1.4 Coordination with Partners to Expand Accessibility and Continuity of Care
- 1.5 Optional Use of Combined Funds, CCDF Matching and Maintenance-of-Effort Funds
- 1.6 Public-Private Partnerships
- 1.7 Coordination with Child Care Resource and Referral Systems
- 1.8 Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan



Service Delivery: Our Partners

- 58 Local Departments of Social Services
- Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
- 35 CCR&Rs
- NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
- NYS Department of Health
- SUNY & CUNY
- Other (incl. Early Childhood Advisory Council, Early Care and Learning Council, WHEDCo, CSEA, UFT, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, NYS Network for Youth Success)



Part 1: Partnerships and Coordination

- Partnered with NYS Department of Health to:
 - Create the anaphylaxis policy for child care programs
 - Update safe sleep regulations to align with DOH recommendations
 - Collaborate with the identification of environmental hazards (a “safe site” workgroup)
 - Develop guidance documents in response to the COVID-19 pandemic



Part 2: Family Engagement

- 2.1 Outreach to Families with Limited English Proficiency and Persons with Disabilities
- 2.2 Parental Complaint Process
- 2.3 Consumer Education Website
- 2.4 National Website and Hotline
- 2.5 Additional Consumer and Provider Education
- 2.6 Procedures for Providing Information on Developmental Screenings
- 2.7 Consumer Statement for Parents Receiving CCDF Funds



Part 2: New Developments

- Website for consumer education
 - Searchable website
 - Information is available in other languages
 - Made additions to links to other public benefits



Part 2: New Developments

- Consumer Education requirements implemented
- Implementation impacted by COVID, currently on waiver through 9/30/2021
- Aggregate data reporting requirements substantially implemented
- Actual inspection checklists used for specific inspections now linked under a program's inspection history
- Enhanced comprehensive background check web content under development



Part 3: Financial Assistance to Families

3.1 Eligible Children and Families

3.2 Family Contribution to Payment

3.3 Increasing Access for Vulnerable Children and Families

3.3 Continuity for Working Parents



Part 3: New Developments

- Policy related to fluctuation in earnings
- Policies and procedures for not unduly interrupting employment
- Policies improving access to children and families experiencing homelessness



Part 3: New Developments

- 12-month eligibility included in enacted budget
- Cap of family co-pay at 10%
- Eligibility for families up to 200% Federal Poverty Level
- Additional funding for facilitated enrollment



Part 4: Equal Access

- 4.1 Maximize Parental Choice and Implement Supply Building Mechanisms
- 4.2 Assess Market Rates and Analyze the Cost of Child Care
- 4.3 Establish Adequate Payment Rates
- 4.4 Implement Generally Accepted Payment Practices and Ensure Timeliness of Payments
- 4.5 Establish Affordable Co-Payments



Part 4: New Developments

- Enhanced rates for QUALITYstarsNY– in process
- Requirements for districts to have policy on payment practices



Part 4: New Developments

- Legally Exempt Health and Safety requirements met
 - Inspection requirements
 - Training requirements
 - Comprehensive background checks
 - General health and safety standards implemented



Part 4 and Appendix A

Section 4.2 – Assess Market Rates

- No change yet. 2019 child care market rates remain in effect.

Appendix A – Market rate survey waiver request form

- States may request a temporary “extraordinary circumstances waiver” due to the instability of child care market during COVID-19.
- OCFS will request a 1-year waiver for the market rate survey.
- It must be completed prior to June 1, 2022.
- Child care subsidy payment rate ceilings will be adjusted based on the results of the market rate survey.



Part 4 and Appendix A

- NYS Family Share Formula
 - Currently varies by district from 10-35% of the family's gross income that exceeds 100% of the federal poverty level
- Reducing family share
 - Many districts have waived family share during COVID-19.
 - Over the past year, OCFS has successfully encouraged districts to reduce their family share multiplier.
 - Only 4 districts remain at the highest percentages of 30 and 35%.
 - More than half of districts are at 10-20% multiplier.
 - OCFS is drafting regulations to implement a 10% cap on the family share multiplier.



Federal and NYS Eligibility Levels

85% State Median Income Compared to 200% Federal Poverty Level

Family Size	85% SMI NY (FFY 2021-22)*	200% FPL (Effective 6/1/21)**	85% SMI NY / 100% FPL
1	\$46,398	\$25,760	360%
2	\$60,674	\$34,840	348%
3	\$74,950	\$43,920	341%
4	\$89,226	\$53,000	336%
5	\$103,502	\$62,080	333%
6	\$117,779	\$71,160	331%
7	\$120,455	\$80,240	300%
8	\$123,132	\$89,320	275%
Each additional Person		Add \$9,080	

* State Median Income: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Table B19119, Median family income, five-year estimates 2015-19.

** State Income Standard for eligibility based on federal poverty level, 21-OCFS-INF-03.



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Part 5: Health and Safety Standards and Monitoring

- 5.1 Licensing Requirements
- 5.2 Standards for Ratios, Group Size and Qualifications for CCDF Providers
- 5.3 Health and Safety Standards and Training
- 5.4 Monitoring and Enforcement Policies and Practices
- 5.5 Comprehensive Background Checks
- 5.6 Exemptions for Relative Providers



Part 5: New Developments

- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene regulations referenced along with those of OCFS
- New Regulator Institute completely revised and in 2019 updated to include simulation training for regulators at the OCFS Human Services Training Center in Rensselaer



Part 5: New Developments

- CCDBG comprehensive background checks(CBCs) were implemented in September 2019
- Implementation impacted by COVID-19; NYS currently on a waiver through 9/30/2021
- Revised implementation schedules for existing employees have been issued and will continue to be updated
- Systems enhancements being implemented for increased tracking and management of CBC process



Part 5: New Developments

- Provisional employment provisions subsequently implemented in February 2020 after substantial feedback from the field. This allows for child care staff employment under supervision once prints are submitted.
- Over 90,000 CBCs completed to date



Part 5: New Developments

CCDBG annual inspection requirement implemented in December 2019

- As noted, implementation impacted by COVID-19; currently on waiver through 9/30/2021
- Calendar year tracking began in January 2020
- Supported through system enhancements in CCFS



Part 5: New Developments

Implementation of remote inspections

- OCFS developed a pilot program utilizing technology to support inspections being conducted remotely.
- As part of the pilot, OCFS participated in meetings with our federal partners and other states to evaluate best practice considerations.
- Supports healthy and safe practices, while maintaining a virtual presence in programs
- Initial focus is on renewal inspections.
- Supported through system enhancements in CCFS
- OCFS plans to expand this program more broadly within its field operations.



Part 6: Child Care Workforce

- 6.1 Professional Development Framework
- 6.2 Training and Professional Development Requirements
- 6.3 Supporting Training & Professional Development of the Child Care Workforce
- 6.4 Early Learning and Developmental Guidelines



Part 6: New Developments

- Developing a training about Early Learning Guidelines for child care regulators
- Regulation was revised to add ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) as a required training topic



Part 6: New Developments

- Training and professional development requirements put in place for legally-exempt providers
- Focus on improving the quality and availability of child care for children who are homeless, including help to providers on identifying and serving children and families experiencing homelessness
- Training and technical assistance for programs serving children who are homeless



Part 7: Quality Improvement

- 7.1 Quality Activities Needs Assessment for Child Care Services
- 7.2 Use of Quality Funds
- 7.3 Quality Rating and Improvement System
- 7.4 Improving Supply and Quality of Child Care Programs & Services for Infants & Toddlers
- 7.5 Child Care Resource and Referral
- 7.6 Facilitating Compliance with State Standards
- 7.7 Evaluating and Assessing the Quality and Effectiveness of Child Care Programs and Services
- 7.8 Accreditation Support
- 7.9 Program Standards
- 7.10 Other Quality Improvement Activities



Part 7: NYS's Overarching Goals for Quality Improvement

1. Supporting the training and professional development of the child care workforce
2. Improving the quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers by supporting seven Infant/Toddler Regional Resource centers throughout the state
3. Supporting a statewide network of 35 CCR&R agencies, along with the Early Care and Learning Council, which is the membership organization for CCR&Rs in New York State



Part 7: NYS's Overarching Goals for Quality Improvement (cont'd.)

4. Supporting compliance with state requirements for licensing, inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety
5. Supporting providers in the voluntary pursuit of accreditation through the Educational Incentive Program
6. Supporting the development or adoption of high-quality program and regulatory standards related to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development



Part 8: Grantee Program Integrity and Accountability

8.1 Internal Controls and Accountability

Measures to Help Ensure Program Integrity

- Child Care Time and Attendance (CCTA) system
- Child Care Program Integrity (CCPI)



Now We Hear From You!



Thank you!



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For information about
Child Care in
New York State
visit:

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/>

