

**SCHENECTADY COUNTY**  
**2013 APU**  
**APPENDIX K**  
 Child Care Administration

Describe how your local 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:

Public Assistance Families: Temporary Assistance Unit  
 Transitioning Families: Temporary Assistance Unit will transfer transitioning family to Daycare/Eligibility Unit  
 Income Eligible Families: Daycare/Eligibility Unit  
 Title XX: Daycare/Eligibility Unit

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

FFY 2009-2010 Rollover funds (available from the NYSCCBG ceiling report in the claiming system): .....\$0.00  
 Estimate FFY 2010-11 Rollover Funds .....\$0.00  
 Estimate of Flexible Funds for Families (FFS) for child care subsidies.....\$0.00  
 NYSCCBG Allocation 2011-12 .....\$5,406,752.00  
 Estimate of Local Share .....\$228,165.00  
**Total Estimated NYSCCCBG Amount** .....\$5,634,917.00  
 a. Subsidy.....\$0.00  
 b. Other program costs excluding subsidy.....\$0.00  
 c. Administrative costs.....\$100,000.00

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

Function	Organization	Amount of Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility screening		
<input type="checkbox"/> Determining if legally-exempt providers meet State-approved additional standards		
<input type="checkbox"/> Assistance in locating care		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Information Systems		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

**APPENDIX L**

**Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available (Required)**

Listed below are the optional categories of eligible families that your district can include as part of its County Plan. Select any categories your county 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	As determined by the independent employment plan completed by SJTA.
2. PA families or families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when the caretaker is: a) participating in an approved substance abuse treatment program b) homeless c) a victim of domestic violence d) in an emergency situation of short duration	a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No c) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No d) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Open child welfare cases only If working If working Short term medical problems if the case is open as child protective
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	
4. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed because the child's caretaker:		
a) is physically or mentally incapacitated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Open child welfare protective case only
b) has family duties away from home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Under unusual short term circumstances to be determined on a case by case basis by the Director of Services or Commissioner; using the following criteria: duration limited to one month; no informal resources exist; the circumstances leading to the situation are outside the caregiver's control.
5. Families with income up to 200% of the State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Authorized on a part time

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child’s caretaker to actively seek employment for a period up to six months.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	basis for up to 30 days with documented proof of active job search. May be extended for up to six months for extenuating circumstances with documentation. Criteria to be used for extenuating circumstances include: the county unemployment rate exceeds the state average by two percentage points; the applicant can demonstrate an active but unsuccessful job search.
6. PA families where a sanctioned parent is participating in unsubsidized employment, earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount under law.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7. Families with income up to 200% of the State Income Standard when child care services are needed for the child’s caretaker to participate in:  a) a public or private educational facility providing a standard high school curriculum offered by or approved by the local school district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If the parent is also employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week. Under no circumstance will the daycare be approved for more than full-time daycare.
b) an education program that prepares an individual to obtain a NYS High School equivalency diploma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week. Under no circumstance with the daycare be approved for more than full-time daycare; and possesses documentation that he/she will take the GED test within 12 months of starting the program.
c) a program providing basic remedial education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	If the parent is employed

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<p>in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and oral communications for individuals functioning below the ninth month of the eighth grade level</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>in unsubsidized employment 25 hours per week and has documentation indicating that the individual is attending consistently, making satisfactory progress, and if not a high school graduate, the individual must be prepared to take the GED test within 12 months of starting the program. Total hours may never exceed equivalent of full time hours.</p>
<p>d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment.</p>
<p>e) 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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is employed in unsubsidized employment 25 hours per week and has documentation indicating that the individual is attending consistently, making satisfactory progress, and if not a high school graduate, the individual must be prepared to take the GED test within 12 months of starting the program.</p>
<p>f) a two-year full-time degree granting program at a community college, a two-year college, or an undergraduate college with a specific vocational goal leading to an associate degree or certificate of completion</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the applicant is a recent high school graduate or received a GED (within the last two years) and all previous work experience is part time (less than 25 hours per week); and maintains a 2.5 GPA; and must complete the program within 24 months.</p>

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<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>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is also employed a minimum of 25 hours per week, can document consistent attendance, maintains a 2.5 GPA and completes the program within 12 months.</p>
<p>h) a prevocational skill training program such as a basic education and literacy training program</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The parent/caretaker must complete the selected programs listed under number seven within 30 consecutive calendar months. The parent/caretaker cannot enroll in more than one program.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If the parent is also employed in unsubsidized employment a minimum of 25 hours per week, can document consistent attendance, maintains a 2.5 GPA and completes the program within 12 months.</p>
<p>8. PA recipients and 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 parent/caretaker's earning capacity) as long as the parent(s) or caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The parent/caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>9. PA recipients and 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 parent/caretaker's earning capacity as long as the parent(s) or caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The parent/caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
<p>10. PA recipients and low-income families with incomes up to 200% of the State Income Standard who are satisfactorily participating in a four-year college or university program leading to a bachelor's degree and that is reasonably expected to lead to an improvement in the parent/caretaker's earning capacity as long as the parent(s) or caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week. The parent/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>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>	

**APPENDIX M**

**Reasonable Distance, Very Low Income, Family Share, Case Closing and Openings, Recertification Period, Fraud and Abuse Control Activities (Required)**

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**Reasonable Distance**

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

The following defines “reasonable distance”: For eligible recipients using their own vehicle or public transportation, reasonable distance shall not exceed one hour going one way from home to the day care provider and then the employer. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis.

Describe any steps/consultations made to arrive at your definition: Historical availability of day care providers, employment opportunities and public transportation available in the Capital Region.

**Very Low Income**

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

“Very Low Income” is defined as 125% of the State Income Standard.

**Family Share**

“Family share” is the weekly amount paid towards the costs of the child care services by the child’s parent or caretaker. In establishing family share, your district must select a percentage from 10% to 35% to use in calculating the 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 county 35%.

**Note:** The percentage selected here must match the percentage selected in Title XX Program Matrix in WMS.

**Case Closings**

The district must describe below how priority is given to federally mandated priorities and describe local priorities. If all NYSCCBG funds are committed, the district will discontinue funding to those families that have lower priorities in order to serve families with higher priorities. Describe below how districts will select cases to be closed in the event that there are insufficient or no funds available.

1. Identification of local priorities in addition to the required federal priorities (select one).
  - The district has identified local priorities in addition to the required federal priorities (Complete Section 2)
  - The district has not identified local priorities in addition to the required federal priorities (Complete Section 3).
  
2. Describe how priority is given to federally mandated priorities and describe local priorities. If all NYSCCBG funds are committed, the district will discontinue funding to those families that have lower priorities in order to serve families with higher priorities. Describe in the space below how the district will select cases to be closed in the event that there are insufficient or no funds available.

a. The district will select cases to be closed based ONLY on income.

No.

Yes. Check 1 or 2 below.

1)  The district will close cases from the highest income to lowest income.

2)  The district will close cases based on income bands. Describe the income bands, beginning at 200% of the State Income Standard and ending at 100% of the State Income Standard:

Families with incomes between 200%-175% of the State Income Standard

Families with incomes between 175%-150% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is between 150%-125% of the State Income Standard

Families whose income is at or below 125% of the State Income Standard

b. The district will select cases to be closed based ONLY on categories of families.

No.

Yes. List the categories in the order that they will be closed, including the optional categories selected in Appendix L:

c. The district will select cases to be closed based on a combination of income and family category.

No.

Yes. List the categories and income groupings in the order that they will be closed:

d. The district will select cases to be closed on a basis other than the options listed above.

No.

Yes. Describe how the district will select cases to be closed in the event that there are insufficient funds to maintain the district's current case load:

e. The last cases to be closed will be those that fall under federal priorities. Identify how your district will prioritize federal priorities. Cases that are ranked 1 will be closed last.

Very low income  Rank 1  Rank 2

Families that have a child with special needs  Rank 1  Rank 2



3. If all NYSCCBG funds are committed, case closings for families that are not eligible under a child care guarantee and are not a federally mandated priority must be based on the length of time in receipt of services. The length of time used to close cases may be based either on the shortest or longest time the family has received child care services, but must be consistent for all families.
- a. Identify how the district will prioritize federal priorities. Cases that are ranked 1 will be closed last.
- Very low income     Rank 1     Rank 2
- Families that have a child with special needs     Rank 1     Rank 2
- b. The district will close cases based on the federal priorities and the amount of time the family has been receiving child care services.
- Shortest time receiving child care services
- Longest time receiving child care services
4. The district will establish a waiting list for families whose cases were closed because our county did not have sufficient funds to maintain our current caseload.
- No.
- Yes. Describe how these cases will be selected to be reopened if funds become available:

**Case Openings**

Describe below how priority is given to federally mandated priorities and how the district will select cases to be opened in the event that insufficient funds are available.

1. The first cases to be opened will be those that fall under the federal priorities.
- Identify how your district will prioritize federal priorities. Cases that are ranked 1 will be opened first.
- Very low income     Rank 1     Rank 2
- Families that have a child with special needs     Rank 1     Rank 2
2. The district will select cases to be opened based ONLY on income.
- No.
- Yes. Check 1 or 2 below.
- 1)  The district will open cases from the lowest income to highest income.
- 2)  The district will open cases based on income bands. Describe the income bands, beginning at 200% of the State Income Standard and ending at 100% of the State Income Standard:

Families whose income is at or below 125% of the State Income Standard  
Families whose income is between 125%-150% of the State Income Standard  
Families with incomes between 150%-175% of the State Income Standard  
Families with incomes between 175%-200% of the State Income Standard

3. The district will select cases to be opened based ONLY on category.
- No.
- Yes. List the categories in the order that they will be opened, including the optional categories selected in Appendix L:
4. The district will select cases to be opened based on a combination of income and category of family.
- No.
- Yes. List the categories and income groupings in the order that they will be opened:
5. The district selects cases to be opened on a basis other than the options listed above.
- No.
- Yes. Describe how the district will select cases to be opened in the event that there are not sufficient funds to open all eligible families:
6. The district will establish a waiting list when there are not sufficient funds to open all eligible cases.
- No.
- Yes. Describe how these cases will be selected to be opened when funds become available:

The district's recertification period is every  six months  twelve months

**Fraud and Abuse Control Activities**

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 payment in addition to procedures for referring such applications to the district’s front-end detection system.

**#1. The following are additional indicators that will prompt a FEDS referral for daycare cases:**

- **Prior fraud**
- **Documents / information inconsistent with application**
- **Children with no birth certificates**
- **Post office box for mailing address**
- **No information on missing parent**
- **Termination of employment**

**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.**

At the re-certification the eligibility worker matches the hours on the authorizations to the bills. Verifications are solicited from employers and programs; discrepancies are referred to the Fraud Unit.

**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.**

The Department’s process for this is that the Food Program makes phone calls to the Eligibility Unit and asks for information about the number of children authorized to be in the providers’ care. Any inconsistencies reported to the eligibility worker / supervisor are referred to the Fraud Unit. The Eligibility Unit will review all referrals from the Food Program.

**Inspections of Child Care Provider Records and Premises**

The district may choose to make announced or unannounced inspections of the records and premises of a 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). 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

Family Day Care;  Registered School Age Child Care

Group Family Day Care;  Day Care Centers;  Small Day Care Centers;

B. The district  *does* OR  *does not*:

Reserve the right to make inspections *PRIOR to subsidized children receiving care* in a **home** where the inspection is 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.

C. The district will report violations of regulations as follows:

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

**APPENDIX N**  
**District Options (Required)**

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Districts have some flexibility to administer their child care subsidy programs to meet local needs. Check which options that your district wishes to include in your county plan. Complete the attached appendices for any area(s) checked.

1.  The district has chosen to establish funding set-asides for NYSCCBG (complete Appendix O).
2.  The district is using 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 regulated child care services that have been accredited by a nationally recognized child care organization (complete Appendix T).
8.  The district has chosen to pay up to 15% higher than the applicable market rates for non-traditional hours (complete Appendix T).
9.  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).
10.  The district has chosen to pay for child care services while a caretaker who works the second or third shift sleeps (complete Appendix T).
11.  The district has chosen to make payments to child care providers who provide child care services, which exceed 24 consecutive hours (complete Appendix U).
12.  The district has chosen to include 18-, 19- or 20-year-olds in the Child Care Services Unit (complete Appendix U)
13.  The district is seeking a waiver from one or more regulatory provisions. Such waivers are limited to those regulatory standards that are not specifically included in law (complete Appendix U).
14.  The district has chosen to pay for breaks in activity for low income families (non public assistance families). Complete Appendix U.

15.  The district has chosen to use local equivalent forms such as, but not limited to, child care application, client notification, and/or enrollment forms (attach copies of the local equivalent forms your district uses).

*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.*

**APPENDIX O**  
Funding Set-Asides (Optional)

**Total NYSCCBG Block Grant Amount, Including Local Funds**

Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
<b>Total Set-Asides</b>	.....	<b>\$</b>

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

Category:  
Description:

Category:  
Description:

Category:  
Description:

Category:  
Description:

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

Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
Category:	.....	\$
<b>Total Set-Asides (Title XX)</b>	.....	<b>\$</b>

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

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:

Category:

Description:



**APPENDIX P**  
**Title XX Child Care (Optional)**

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Enter projected total Title XX expenditures for the plan's duration: .....\$ 1,540,080.00

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) 200%      (3) 200%      (4) 200%

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

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: In many of the categories it is required that the family be an open child protective case.

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

Yes     No

If yes, describe which families will receive priority: Those families open as child protective or preventive cases exhibiting health and safety concerns.

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

Yes     No

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

Yes     No

**APPENDIX Q #1**

**Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers (Optional)**

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

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

- Verification that the provider has given the parent/caretaker complete and accurate information regarding any report of child abuse or maltreatment in which they are named as an indicated subject
- Local criminal background check
- Requirement that providers that care for subsidized children for 30 or more hours a week participate in the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP)
- Site visits by the local district
- Other (please describe):

2. Check below the type of child care program to which the additional 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 providers not operating under the auspices of another government agency. Check all that apply.
  - Provider                       Provider's Employee                       Provider's Volunteer

- Legally-exempt group providers operating under the auspices of another government or tribal agency. Check all that apply.
  - Provider                       Provider's Employee                       Provider's Volunteer

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: Jean Nicholas, Supervisor A,  
Child Protective Unit

Contracted agency

Provide the name of the agency and contact person:

4. Are there any costs associated with the additional standard?

Yes  No

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

5. **Describe the steps for evaluating whether the additional local standard has been met.**

The individuals specified in question #2 above will be asked to sign a release which will allow the Schenectady County Department of Social Services (DSS) 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).

If the individual specified in question #2 above refuses to sign the release, 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.

When the local records check reveals that the 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 Schenectady County DSS 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 Schenectady County DSS will notify the provider that he/she has ten (10) calendar days to clarify the discrepancies in the information submitted to the DSS and parent/caretaker. If the provider fails to clarify the discrepancies the Schenectady County DSS will notify the enrollment agency that the additional standard has not been met.

If the information submitted by the provider correlates with the information obtained from the local database check and the parent/caretaker still chooses to use the provider, the enrollment agency will be notified that the additional standard has been met.

The enrollment agency will provide a copy of the signed release to the Supervisor A (via fax) authorizing the database check.

The Supervisor A of Child Protective Services will conduct the check of the local child welfare database to verify the accuracy of the information submitted to the parent/caretaker. The Supervisor A of Central Intake Services will fax a form to the enrollment agency indicating whether or not the additional standard has been met.

6. Indicate how frequently reviews of the additional standard will be conducted. Check all that apply.

Legally-Exempt Programs:

- Initial enrollment                       During the 12-month enrollment period  
 Re-enrollment                               Other

7. **In the space below, described the procedures the district will use to notify the Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency (EA) as to whether the legally-exempt provider is in compliance with the additional local standards. Districts must notify the EA within 25 days from the date they received the referral from the EA. (Districts need to describe this procedure only if the additional local standard is applied to legally-exempt child care providers.)**

The Supervisor A of Central Intake Services in Schenectady County will fax a form to the enrollment agency indicating whether or not the additional standard has been met. This form will include the description/name of the additional standard, the person the additional standard applies to and the date the check was run.

8. **Describe the justification for the additional standard in the space below.**

Legally exempt family child care and in-home care providers are caring for young vulnerable children utilizing tax payer dollars. Ensuring the safety of children in daycare settings is of paramount importance. Providers with extensive histories of child abuse, maltreatment in their families present a heightened risk to these children.

**APPENDIX Q #2 – FRAUD INVESTIGATOR VISIT**

**ADDITIONAL LOCAL STANDARDS FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS (OPTIONAL)**

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

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

- Verification that the provider has given the parent/caretaker complete and accurate information regarding any report of child abuse or maltreatment in which they are named as an indicated subject
- Local criminal background check
- Requirement that providers that care for subsidized children for 30 or more hours a week participate in the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP)
- Site visits by the local district
- Other (please describe): Schenectady County Fraud Unit Investigator will make a minimum of one home visit annually with more visits made as needed.

2. Check below the type of child care program to which the additional 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 providers not operating under the auspices of another government agency. Check all that apply.
  - Provider     Provider's Employee     Provider's Volunteer
- Legally-exempt group providers operating under the auspices of another government or tribal agency. Check all that apply.
  - Provider     Provider's Employee     Provider's Volunteer

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: Supervisor A of Central Intake Services

Contracted agency

Provide the name of the agency and contact person:

4. Are there any costs associated with the additional standard?

Yes  No

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

5. **Describe the steps for evaluating whether the additional local standard has been met.**

All types of legally exempt informal day care providers will be referred to the Schenectady County Fraud Unit and an Investigator will make a minimum of one home visit annually with more visits made as needed.

The investigator will verify the following information:

- That care is being provided at the approved location
- That care is being provided by the provider of record
- The number of children in care
- That the children are receiving child care as described in the application
- That the hours of care are being performed as documented on the employer's verification and the attendance sheet submitted.

Investigations warranting further follow up are initiated when inconsistencies are found in the application, attendance records, or home visits. The inconsistencies may be potential indicators of fraud and are necessarily pursued to their conclusion.

The fraud investigator will conduct a review after the legally exempt family child care provider is enrolled. The enrollment agency will notify the day care unit and the day care unit will notify the fraud unit. The home visit will occur within one year of the initial enrollment.

The site visit to the Provider's home will verify the address, verify the children who are getting child care, their names and their dates of birth.

The Fraud Investigator will report the findings to the day care unit.

6. Indicate how frequently reviews of the additional standard will be conducted. Check all that apply.

Legally-Exempt Programs:

- Initial enrollment                       During the 12-month enrollment period  
 Re-enrollment                                 Other

7. **In the space below, described the procedures the district will use to notify the Legally-Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency (EA) as to whether the legally-exempt provider is in compliance with the additional local standards. Districts must notify the EA within 25 days from the date they received the referral from the EA. (Districts need to describe this procedure only if the additional local standard is applied to legally-exempt child care providers.)**

The enrollment agency will be notified of the results of the investigation by fax by the Supervisor A of Central Intake Services within 25 days of the referral.

8. **Describe the justification for the additional standard in the space below.**

Legally exempt family child care providers are caring for young vulnerable children utilizing tax payer dollars. Ensuring the safety of children in daycare settings is of paramount importance.

**APPENDIX R**

**Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences (Optional)**

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

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

- Yes     No

Base period (check one)                       3 months                       6 months

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	24	16	40

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

Child is ill; parent must provide written documentation. Extenuating circumstances include: Need for the child or caretaker to appear in court or keep other appointments related to the provision of preventive services, foster care, adoption or CPS; or need for the child to receive medical care or routine medical treatment.

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

Parent must provide a written statement documenting reason for absence.

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



**APPENDIX S**

**Payment to Child Care Providers for Program Closures (Optional)**

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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

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

- Yes     No

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

List the allowable program closures for which the county will provide payment.

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

**APPENDIX T**

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

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**Transportation**

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

**Not Applicable**

**Differential Payment Rates**

Indicate the percentage above the market rate your county has chosen.

- Accredited programs may receive a differential payment up to 0% above market rate.
- Care during non-traditional hours may be paid up to 0% above market rate.
- Limitations to the above differentials:

**Not Applicable**

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

**Not Applicable**

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

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 annually completed 10 or more hours of training and the training has been verified by the legally-exempt caregiver enrollment agency.

- No.
- Yes. Our market rate will not exceed 75% of the child care market rate established for registered family day care.

**Sleep**

The following describes the standards that will be used in evaluating whether or not to pay for child care services while a parent or caretaker that works a second or third shift sleeps, as well as any limitations pertaining to payment:

Single parent working 11:00p.m.-7:00a.m.

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

8

**APPENDIX U**

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

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**Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours**

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 county 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

Describe any limitations for payment of child care services that exceed 24 consecutive hours.

The provider must seek prior approval from the Services Director or the Commissioner, prior to providing 24 hour care. The provider must detail (verbally or in writing) the reason for the 24 hour care and the duration. Approval will be based on the nature of the emergency, availability of informal supports, and the duration of the care to be provided.

**Child Care Services Unit (CCSU)**

Indicate below if your county will include 18-, 19-, or 20-year-olds in the CCSU, which is used in determining family size and countable family income.

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

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

**OR**

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

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

The 18 or 19 year old is still in high school or is a recent participant in high school, and is still dependent on the family for support.

**Waivers**

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

**Breaks in Activities**

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. Indicate below if your county will make such payments (check one).

- Two weeks
- Four weeks

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 any that are eligible):

- Entering an activity
- Waiting for employment
- On a break between activities