



Office of Children and Family Services

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Commissioner

April 4, 2022

Ms. Marie Cannon, Commissioner
Erie County Department of Social Services
Appletree Business Park
2875 Union Road, Suite 356
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Dear Commissioner Cannon:

This letter is in response to your request to amend Erie County's Child and Family Services 2021 Child Care Plan. Erie County has proposed to amend the following:

Proposed changes:

1. Appendix L: Other Eligible Families if Funds are Available

Erie County has requested to select "yes" for option 2d, 4a, 7c, 7d, 7h, 7i, 8, 9, 10, and 11 under Appendix L effective April 1, 2022.

Limitations for 2d to read "Applicant families with incomes up to 200% under the following situations: hospitalization, medical/substance abuse treatment, laid off, or jail."

Limitations for option 4a to read "A child's caretaker must be disabled and receiving Social Security Disability benefits (SSDI/SSI)."

Options 7c, 7d, and 7h limitations to read "A parent/caretaker must be employed at least 10 hours per week and earn at least minimum wage."

Options 8 and 9 limitations to read "ECDDSS approved programs."

Option 10 limitation to read "For PA recipients with approval from the employment division a four-year college program would be the highest level of post-secondary level education that could be approved. This approval would be determined based on the individual's assessment plan toward self-sufficiency and the district's need to meet Federal and State work participation requirements. Approval for enrollment considers factors such as the individual's ability to successfully complete the program; whether it is necessary for the achievement of the individual's employment goals outlined in their Employment Plan; and whether such goals relate directly to obtaining employment in an occupation with favorable job prospects. Continued approval of enrollments is based on the participant maintaining satisfactory progress to complete the course of study. Verification of school attendance is the responsibility of the participant."

Options 7i and 11 is to have no limitations listed.

2. Appendix R: Payment to Child Care Providers for Absences

Erie County has requested to change the amount of additional absences paid per year at district option from 24 to 36, for a total of 60 absences paid per year under Appendix R, option 2 effective April 1, 2022.

3. Appendix M#1: III. Family Share

Erie County has requested to lower their family share percentage to 1% from the current 10% under Appendix M effective May 1, 2022.

Your requests regarding Appendix L and Appendix R changes are approved and effective at your requested date of April 1, 2022. The request regarding Appendix M has been approved at and effective date of May 1, 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this approval or the child care section found in your district's Child and Family Services 2021 Child Care Plan, please contact Darci Primeau at (518) 474-9095 or via email at Darci.Primeau@ocfs.ny.gov.

Sincerely,



Janice M. Molnar, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services

Attachment