



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

March 29, 2022

Janice Molnar, Deputy Commissioner
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
Division of Child Care Services – Subsidy Unit
52 Washington Street, Room 309 South, Rensselaer, NY 12144-2834
ocfs.sm.districtsupport.subsidy@ocfs.ny.gov

Dear Ms. Molnar,

Erie County would like to amend our Child & Family Services Plan effective April 1, 2022:

Appendix L

Optional Categories	Option	Limitations
2d) in an emergency situation of short duration	Yes	Applicant families with incomes up to 200% under the following situations: hospitalization, medical/substance abuse treatment, laid off, or jail.
4a) is physically or mentally incapacitated	Yes	A child's caretaker must be disabled and receiving Social Security Disability benefits (SSDI/SSI).
7c) 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	Yes	A parent/caretaker must be employed at least 10 hours per week and earn at least minimum wage.
7d) a program providing literacy training designed to help individuals improve their ability to read and write	Yes	A parent/caretaker must be employed at least 10 hours per week and earn at least minimum wage.
7h) 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	Yes	A parent/caretaker must be employed at least 10 hours per week and earn at least minimum wage.
7i) a demonstration project designed for vocational training or other project approved by the Department of Labor	Yes	none

<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) if the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week and earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount required under Federal and State Labor Law. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>ECDSS approved programs</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 if the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week and earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount required under Federal and State Labor Law. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>ECDSS approved programs</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 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 if the caretaker is also working at least 17½ hours per week and earning wages at a level equal to or greater than the minimum amount required under Federal and State Labor Law. The caretaker must demonstrate his or her ability to successfully complete the course of study.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>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.</p>

		Verification of school attendance is the responsibility of the participant.
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.	Yes	

Appendix R

Additional absences

2. How many absences per year will the district pay?

- 24 Required absences per year
- 36 Additional absences paid per year at district option
- 60 Total number of absences paid per year

Effective May 1, 2022:

Appendix M

III. Family Share Percentage selected by the district: 1%

All amendments are contingent upon adequate Child Care Block Grant funding to support the expansion of increased absences and lowering the family share. Erie County will continue to review all fiscal expenditures to ensure there is funding to support families and children receiving subsidized child care. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie A. Cannon, Commissioner
Erie County Department of Social Services



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March 30, 2022

Janice Molnar, Deputy Commissioner
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
Division of Child Care Services – Subsidy Unit
52 Washington Street, Room 309 South, Rensselaer, NY 12144-2834
ocfs.sm.districtsupport.subsidy@ocfs.ny.gov

Dear Ms. Molnar,

The following request is for the month of March 2022 and will terminate at the end of the month. The Erie County Local Social Services District is requesting a waiver for 10-day provider program closures due to COVID-19 and the applicable child care services regulation under 415 of Title 18 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (NYCRR). Such waiver(s) are requested so that the district can offer expanded child care assistance in response to the recent increase in COVID-19 transmissions, to the extent that the district continues to have funds available. Funds utilized may include either the district's allocation for the State Child Care Block Grant Program any local funds appropriated for such purpose, or any other funds allocated for this purpose:

By my signature below, I acknowledge that the district is responsible for evaluating which waiver(s) apply to each individual family, child, or provider's situation on a case by-case basis. This amendment, including any waivers, will be valid through the end of the month.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marie A. Cannon".

Marie A. Cannon, Commissioner
Erie County Department of Social Services