

**CHILD CARE SECTION
2008 APU**

**APPENDIX G-8 (approved 9/28/09)
ADDITIONAL LOCAL STANDARDS FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

The district may propose local standards in addition to the State standards for providers who will receive child care subsidies.

1. Described below are the additional local standards that will be required of providers as well as which providers must comply with each additional standard.

Providers of legally exempt in-home child care and providers of legally exempt family child care and all of the legally exempt family child care providers household members 18 years of age and older will be asked to sign a release which will allow our department to conduct a local child welfare database check. The release will inform the legally exempt in-home and family child care providers and the legally exempt family child care provider's household members 18 years of age and older that the district will complete a review of their local child welfare database to determine if the legally exempt in-home child care provider or the legally exempt family child care provider and the legally exempt family child care provider's household members 18 years of age and older are the subject of an indicated child protective report. The releases will be included in the enrollment package. The enrollment agency will return the signed releases to our department. The enrollment agency will notify our department immediately if the release has not been signed and the additional standard will not apply to those individuals that did not sign the release.

If a legally exempt in-home child care provider or the legally exempt family child care provider and/or the legally exempt family child care provider's household member(s) 18 years of age and older refuse to sign the release which would allow our Department to conduct a local child welfare database check, our Department will inform the parent/caretaker of the refusal so that they can consider the refusal when they make a decision to select the provider. In these situations, parents will be reminded of their right to choose another provider and will be given information about how to locate other providers.

When a local child welfare database check reveals that a legally exempt in-home provider or a legally exempt family provider and/or the legally exempt family child care provider's household member(s) 18 years of age and older are the indicated subject of a child abuse or maltreatment report the provider will be required to submit to our department a written statement providing information concerning the indicated report(s). This statement must be signed by the parent/caretaker acknowledging receipt of this information and confirming the parent/caretaker's wish to use this child care provider.

If the information regarding the indicated child protective report does not correlate with the information obtained from the local child welfare database check, our department will notify the provider that the provider has 5 days to clarify any discrepancies in the information submitted, and submit information showing why the district information is inaccurate. If the provider does not take this action within 5 days, the district will notify the enrollment agency that the additional standard has not been met.

If the information regarding the indicated child protective report correlates with the information obtained from the local child welfare database check, there are no other health or safety concerns, and the parent/caretaker still chooses to use the provider, the district will notify the enrollment agency that the additional standard has been met. In some cases, our district will need to inform the parent that the parent's decision to place their child in the care of this provider would place their child at risk. As mandated reporters, our district is obligated to make a report of suspected child abuse or maltreatment if placing the child in the care of a provider would place the child in imminent danger of impairment and the parent/caretaker nevertheless places the child in that provider's care. Parents will be informed of their right to choose an alternative provider and be given information about how to locate other providers.

The local database checks will be conducted at initial enrollment.

2. Described below are the methods and resources that will be utilized to determine that these additional local standards are being met.

When the legally exempt in-home child care provider and the legally exempt family child care provider and the legally exempt family child care provider's household members 18 years of age and older have signed the release which allows our Department to conduct a local child welfare database check, our designated Department staff will check the local child welfare database for indicated reports of child abuse or maltreatment. The results of the local child welfare database check will be given to the Day Care Unit Staff for appropriate action as described in the response to item one above.

If the local child welfare database check reveals an indicated child protective report the Day Care Unit Staff will follow the procedures outlined in item number one above.

3. Described below are the procedures the district will use to notify the Legally Exempt Caregiver Enrollment Agency as to whether or not the legally exempt provider is in compliance with the additional local standards. (Districts only need to describe this procedure if the additional local standard is applied to legally exempt child care providers.)

The Department will inform the enrollment agency via email as to whether or not the additional standard has been met.

4. Described below is the justification for each additional standard.

Children are being placed at risk of harm due to lack of sufficient background checks on household members of legally exempt caregivers.