



CAYUGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Raymond Bizzari, Director
Community Services

Christine Bianco, Deputy Director
Social Services

Dear Provider,

Cayuga County will be requesting approval of amendment changes to the child care services portion of its Child and Family Services Plan due to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, disaster emergency. The Office of Children and Family Services has given districts the option of expanding the child care services they provide to families affected by the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

Any waivers granted to Cayuga County will be valid for a period of 30 days. Cayuga County will need to resubmit a new waiver request if they wish to extend the waiver period beyond the 30-days unless the district is directly notified by OCFS that the waiver is being extended.

The waivers being requested are:

1. Permit families that are not receiving public assistance that would otherwise need to have their eligibility for child care assistance re-determined within the period of the disaster recovery an additional 30 days to complete such redetermination and continue to provide child care services to such families during the extended redetermination period.
2. Provide child care services to families that need such services for a child to be protected because a parent is unavailable to care for the child/ren as a result of being quarantined due to exposure.
3. Expand the maximum total number of absences that the district will make payments to day care centers, group family day care, family day cares and school age child care providers during the recovery period on behalf of a child who is temporarily absent from child care due to extenuating circumstances resulting from the child being quarantined due to the effects of COVID-19 to 30 days.
4. Make payments to day care centers, group family day care, family day cares and school age child care providers that are closed due to the effects of COVID-19 for up to 30 days.
 - a. 30-days could be extended if Cayuga County wishes to extend the waiver beyond 30-days or if the district is directly notified by OCFS that waiver is being extended.
 - b. Payment for program closure only applies to the duration of the disaster emergency due to the effects of COVID-19. Once the disaster has passed and the waiver is no longer in effect the Plan will revert to normal and will not cover program closures.
5. Implement a waiver to 18 NYCRR § 415.3(e)(1) allowing the family share to be waived for those families who have been impacted by COVID-19.
6. Other waiver request: Cayuga County will be asking to be allowed to pay more than one provider for the same timeframe. This would enable the subsidy to cover absences or closures of your programs and also pay the back-up provider who may care for the child while you are closed.

If you have any questions please contact me at Jeanette.Murray@dfa.state.ny.us or at 315-253-1218.

Jeanette Murray, Senior Examiner Daycare Unit