



## Office of Children and Family Services

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**SUZANNE MILES-GUSTAVE, ESQ.**  
Acting Commissioner

August 23, 2023

Office of Child Care  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Health and Human Services  
Submitted via e-mail: [infocollection@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:infocollection@acf.hhs.gov)

**Re: 88 FR 41962**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; Child Care and Development Fund Plan for States/Territories for FFY 2025-2027 (ACF-118; OMB #0970-0114)**

To Whom This May Concern:

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS) is pleased to submit the following comments in response to the above-referenced proposed information collection activity that was published in the Federal Register, 88 FR 41962, on June 28, 2023. NYS OCFS is pleased with the proposed structure and updates to improve clarity of the Child Care and Development Fund Plan for States/Territories for FFY 2025-2027.

As way of background, NYS OCFS is required to submit a plan for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan (the Plan) for States and Territories in accordance with Section 658E of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (CCDBG Act), as amended, CCDBG Act of 2014. NYS OCFS has analyzed the proposed CCDF Plan for States and Territories for FFY 2025-2027 by section and offers the below feedback and several clarifying points on specific sections and questions.

NYS OCFS would like to recommend that Section 2.2 be renamed from “Parental Complaints” to something broader that does not restrict complaints to just parents. NYS OCFS receives complaints from multiple sources including members of the public, day care staff, law enforcement, and legislators and is required by NYS law to respond to all of them without distinguishing in our processes based on the source of the complaint. We believe our responsibility as the State is to ensure the safety of all children in care regardless of the source of a concern and therefore this section should reflect a broader population that states engage with regularly to ensure child safety.

NYS OCFS also appreciates the increased information requests on serving children with special needs and prioritizing vulnerable families in Section 3.3. NYS, across multiple agencies, serves children with special needs and their families, including through our child care assistance program, and we appreciate the additional focus on these populations in the CCDF plan.

Section 3.5.1 asks for Lead Agency plans for the next 3-5 years. We believe this question is a good opportunity for NYS OCFS to outline some multi-year priorities on which we are currently working. We would also want to ensure that we can update this section frequently as our priorities shift or additional information is added, as progress in child care in NYS moves swiftly. We echo this comment for Section 2.7.1, Section 4.6.1, Section 5.8.1, Section 6.5.1 and Section 7.1.1.

NYS OCFS would like additional clarifying language added to Section 4.3.5.b. This question is requesting an assessment of how market rates are deemed to include “adequate workforce compensation” but it is not clear what the expectations of adequate compensation are or where this requirement is based. Additional information on the expectations related to this requirement would help states to respond accurately to this additional section.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Should you have any questions or need further clarification, we would be pleased to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nora Yates". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Nora Yates  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Child Care Services