

Sarah Adelman, Acting Commissioner New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Family Development P.O. Box 716 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0716

Dear Acting Commissioner Adelman:

The Office of Child Care has completed its review of the proposed amendments to New Jersey's approved Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for 2019-2021, submitted on January 12, 2021 and March 18, 2021.

This letter is to inform you that the following CCDF Plan amendments were approved.

- Section 1.1.1 CCDF Leadership Amended to reflect Sara Adelman as the new Acting Commissioner.
- **Section 1.1.2 CCDF Leadership** Amended to reflect Natasha Johnson as the new Assistant Commissioner.
- Section 2.3.8 Post aggregated data on serious injuries, deaths and substantiated cases of child abuse Amended to reflect that as of March 18, 2021 aggregated data on serious injuries, deaths, and substantiated cases of child abuse are now posted online. Approval of this amendment indicates that New Jersey's CCDF Plan demonstrates compliance with the Final Rule.

The following plan amendments were approved related to COVID-19:

- Section 2.3.7 Post Monitoring and Inspection Reports Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 monitoring and inspection reports have not been posted for license-exempt providers. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey remains non-compliant for Section 2.3.7 Consumer and Provider Education for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore still subject to the notice of non-compliance issued on April 12, 2019 until all CCDF requirements are met.
- Section 2.3.8 Post aggregated data on serious injuries, deaths and substantiated cases of child abuse Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 the online posting of aggregated data on serious

- injuries, deaths and substantiated cases of child abuse was delayed. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020.
- Section 4.2.3 Assessing Market Rates and Child Care Costs Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 a statistically valid and reliable market rate survey that reflects variation by category of provider has not been completed. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020.
- Section 5.4.1 In-State Criminal Registry or Repository Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 in-state criminal registry or repository checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.1 In-State Criminal Registry or Repository Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.2 In-State Sex Offender Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 in-state sex offender registry checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.2 In-State Sex Offender Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.3 In-State Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 in-state child abuse and neglect registry checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.3 In-State Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.4 National FBI Criminal Fingerprint Search Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 national FBI fingerprint checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.4 National FBI Criminal Fingerprint Search for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.5 National Crime Information Center National Sex Offender Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 national FBI sex offender registry checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.5

National Crime Information Center National Sex Offender Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.

- Section 5.4.6 Interstate Criminal Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 interstate criminal registry checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.6 Interstate Criminal Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.7 Interstate Sex Offender Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 interstate sex offender registry checks for existing providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.7 Interstate Sex Offender Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.
- Section 5.4.8 Interstate Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Checks Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 interstate child abuse and neglect registry checks for license-exempt providers are not yet complete. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective November 24, 2020. Please note, New Jersey has still not met requirements for Section 5.4.8 Interstate Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Checks for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, therefore must still demonstrate compliance by September 30, 2021.

The effective dates for these amendments to the New Jersey CCDF Plan are noted on the amendments log within the ACF-118 electronic submission site.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to contact Shonda Laurel, Child Care Program Manager in our New York Regional Office at 646-905-8157 and Shonda.Laurel@acf.hhs.gov.

Page 4 – Sarah Adelman, Acting Commissioner

We appreciate your efforts to meet the child care needs of eligible families in New Jersey and look forward to our continued partnership in the administration of your Child Care and Development Fund Program.

Sincerely,

Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph.D. Acting Director Office of Child Care

cc: Margaret Milliner, Assistant Director Office of Child Care Operations Shonda Laurel, OCC Regional Program Manager, Region 2 Francesca Longo, Regional Liaison, Office of Child Care