



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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NOV 15 2019

Ms. Courtney Hawkins, Director
RI Department of Human Services
57 Howard Ave
Cranston, RI 02920

Dear Director Hawkins:

The Office of Child Care has completed its review of the proposed amendments to Rhode Island's conditionally approved Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for 2019-2021, submitted on October 9, 2019.

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

- **Section 5.4.1a – In-State Criminal Registry or Repository Checks with Fingerprints Requirements** – Amended to reflect that requirements have been established and checks are being conducted for all new or prospective child care staff including all individuals residing in a family child care home age 18 or older. Approval of this amendment indicates that Rhode Island's CCDF Plan demonstrates compliance with the Final Rule.
- **Section 5.4.2a – In-State Sex Offender Registry Requirements** – Amended to reflect that requirements have been established and checks are being conducted for all new or prospective child care staff including all individuals residing in a family child care home age 18 or older. Approval of this amendment indicates that Rhode Island's CCDF Plan demonstrates compliance with the Final Rule.
- **Section 5.4.3a – In-State Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Requirements** – Amended to reflect that requirements have been established and checks are being conducted for all new or prospective child care staff including all individuals residing in a family child care home age 18 or older. Approval of this amendment indicates that Rhode Island's CCDF Plan demonstrates compliance with the Final Rule.
- **Section 5.4.4a – National FBI Criminal Fingerprint Search Requirements** – Amended to reflect that requirements have been established and checks are being conducted for all new or prospective child care staff including all individuals residing in a family child care home age 18 or older. Approval of this amendment indicates that Rhode Island's CCDF Plan demonstrates compliance with the Final Rule.

Additionally, this letter also documents approval for waivers as applicable for sections 5.4.1b, 5.4.2b, 5.4.4b, 5.4.5a, and 5.4.5b for Criminal Background Checks. The waiver approvals are approved for a period of no more than one year. States are expected to be in full compliance of

the background check requirements of Section 5.4 by September 30, 2020. OCC does not have authority under the current law to grant any additional extensions after this date.

The effective date of October 1, 2019 for these amendments to and waivers for the Rhode Island's 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 Shireen Riley, Child Care Program Manager in our Boston Regional Office at 617-565-1152 and Shireen.riley@acf.hhs.gov.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen C. Wheatley Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive style.

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

cc: Caitlin Molina, Assistant Director of Child Care
Allison Comport, Administrator for Children and Families
Shireen Riley, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care Region I
Dawn Ramsburg, Regional Liaison, Office of Child Care