



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

330 C Street, S.W., Washington DC 20201 | [www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov)

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 March 17, 2020.

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

- **Section 3.4.4 – Family Contribution to Copayment** – Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 families are not required to pay a copayment. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective June 8, 2020.
- **Section 4.3.1 – Setting Payment Rates** – Amended to reflect an increase in the base rates for family child care providers, effective January 1, 2020.
- **Section 4.3.2 – Setting Payment Rates** – Amended to reflect that Rhode Island will provide a temporary rate enhancement to CCDF providers due to increased operating costs associated with the COVID-19 emergency child care licensing regulations.
- **Section 4.5.1 – Payment Practice and the Timeliness of Payments** – Amended to reflect updated policy to temporarily pay CCDF providers based on enrollment, regardless of child's attendance, due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus.

The effective dates for these amendments to the Rhode Island 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 or [shireen.riley@acf.hhs.gov](mailto: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,

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

cc: Caitlin Molina, Assistant Director of Child Care, DHHS  
Shireen Riley, OCC Regional Program Manager, Region 1  
Dawn Ramsburg, Regional Liaison, OCC