



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

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November 22, 2024

Cari Miller, Chancellor of Early Learning  
Florida Department of Education (FLDOE)/ Division of Early Learning (DEL)  
325 W. Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Chancellor of Early Learning Miller:

The Office of Child Care (OCC) has completed its review of Florida's request for transitional and legislative waiver(s) for certain eligible provisions in the 2024 CCDF Final Rule, which was submitted to OCC August 16, 2024.

This letter serves as official notification that OCC is approving your request for the CCDF requirements listed below under the authority and conditions delineated in 42 USC 9858g(c) and 45 CFR § 98.19. However, the CCDF requirements for which a temporary waiver is granted are important for improving child care affordability for families, parent choice, and stable child care operations so we also note the importance of coming into compliance swiftly. Waivers are conditional and dependent on progress towards implementation (45 CFR § 98.19(b)(1)(iv)) and are not eligible for renewal or extension (45 CFR § 98.19(b)(1)(ii)).

- Your request to temporarily waive the requirement at 45 CFR § 98.45(b)(5) and § 98.45(l)(3) for co-payments not to exceed 7 percent of family income for all families has been approved for the period of April 30, 2024 through August 1, 2026.
- Your request to temporarily waive the requirement at 45 CFR § 98.45(m)(1) for paying providers prospectively has been approved for the period of April 30, 2024 through August 1, 2026.
- Your request to temporarily waive the requirement at 45 CFR § 98.45(m)(2) for basing provider payments on a child's authorized enrollment has been approved for the period of April 30, 2024 through August 1, 2026.
- Your request to temporarily waive the requirement at 45 CFR § 98.16(y), § 98.16(z), § 98.30(b)(1), and § 98.50(a)(3) for some grants or contracts for direct services for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children in underserved geographic areas has been approved for the period of April 30, 2024 through August 1, 2026.

The transitional and legislative waivers described above temporarily exempt the Lead Agency from meeting the specified CCDF requirements. Nonetheless, the Lead Agency remains subject to a preliminary notice of possible non-compliance until the Lead Agency demonstrates

compliance with requirements by submitting a Plan Amendment to be approved by OCC. As a reminder, CCDF Lead Agencies must submit a Plan amendment within 60 days after making a substantial change to their Plan.

Please note that approval of waiver requests for required provisions in the 2024 Final Rule does not imply approval of any specific Lead Agency action plans included in the waiver requests. Your Regional Office will be available to discuss your plans or proposed approach for coming into compliance and to provide technical assistance to assist Lead Agencies in meeting these requirements.

We look forward to our continued partnership in the administration of your Child Care and Development Fund program and to supporting you in making progress towards full implementation. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact Eric Blanchette, Regional Program Manager in our Atlanta Regional Office at (404) 562-2782 or [eric.blanchette@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:eric.blanchette@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/ Ruth J. Friedman

Ruth J. Friedman, Ph.D.  
Director  
Office of Child Care

cc: Cari Miller, Chancellor of Early Learning  
Eric Blanchette, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region IV  
Noelle Bee, Program Operations Liaison, Office of Child Care