



Office of Children and Family Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Commissioner

June 24, 2021

Dear colleagues,

This e-mail is to notify the local social services district (district) of the termination of the executive orders issued under the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes changes related to the district waivers issued due to the impacts of COVID-19. Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced yesterday that New York State (NYS) will end the state disaster emergency declared on March 7, 2020. The state of emergency will expire Thursday, June 24, 2021.

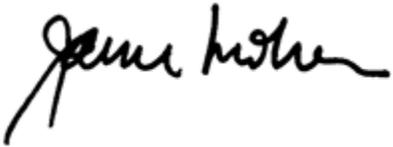
The termination of the EOs effective Friday, June 25, 2021 reflect the following changes. **However, districts are provided a 30-day transition period to allow for necessary and appropriate implementation activities.**

- Any district serving families up to 85 percent of the state median income through a waiver may no longer do so. Families receiving child care assistance under this provision are no longer eligible and must be notified of this change immediately. These families must be provided a minimum of 10-days of notice to regarding such changes.
- SSL 410-w covers breaks in activities. As such, the authority to extend the period during which subsidy may be provided due to a break in activities has ended. As a result, any cases where a family has experienced a break in activities in excess of the two weeks allowed by statute must be evaluated for continued eligibility. For families that are determined to be over income or no longer engaged in the approved activity, districts are required to provide a minimum of 10 days' notice to the affected families.
- Finally, the district waiver associated with allowing families to have a zero percent co-payment (family share) is terminating. For the districts who are participating in such waivers, you have thirty days within which to amend your plan and come into compliance with SSL 410-x which now requires that districts choose an income factor of no more than 10 percent.

Given the enormous progress that has been made across NYS, any remaining COVID-19 related waivers including those for absences, closures, family share and protective services will not be extended beyond the end of July.

Thank you for your tireless efforts and flexibility throughout the pandemic. If you have any questions about these changes, please reach out to the Subsidy Unit at: ocfs.sm.districtsupport.subsidy@ocfs.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice Molnar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Janice Molnar, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services