November 1, 2021

This Letter Contains Important Information about the Stabilization Grant

Dear Provider:

This letter contains important new information on predatory businesses targeting child care provider Stabilization grant funds.

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) has learned that there are companies reaching out to child care providers like you with offers to assist you in completing the Stabilization grant application. These companies charge fees to complete the application. However, *you can apply* for the Stabilization grant online *for free*. **Child care providers do not need to hire someone to complete the Stabilization grant application and cannot use Stabilization funds to pay for this service.** The Child Care Stabilization grant application is available on the OCFS website at no cost to providers. The application is easy, available 24/7, and takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

If you need assistance with the Stabilization grant application, there are many resources available *at no cost* to your program:

- Call the toll-free Helpline at 1-844-863-9319.
- Contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency. CCR&R agencies are paid by OCFS to provide you with free assistance. For a listing of CCR&R agencies, please visit: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php
- Contact your Union representative or enrollment agent. OCFS has been working with CSEA and UFT and enrollment agencies to encourage providers to apply for Stabilization grants.

Additionally, please be aware that new language was recently added to the Stabilization grant Solicitation of Interest regarding providers who changed modalities or locations during the grant period. Please visit: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/COVID-relief/childcare-stabilization/ for more information.

Sincerely,

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