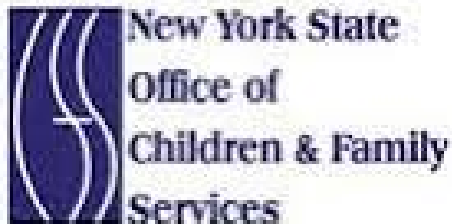


# Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

## THE ROLE OF LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICTS

July 8, 2014



# Webinar Goal

To highlight the Role of New York State's  
Local Social Services Districts

*in the*

**Early Head Start Child Care Partnership  
Funding Opportunity 2014**



# Introductions

**Patty Persell**  
NYS Head Start  
Collaboration Director



**Janice Molnar**  
NYS OCFS Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Child Care Services

# Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

- **NEW** Federal funding opportunity
- **\$500 million** will be available through competitive funding opportunities in all states for new Early Head Start/Child Care Partnerships.
- These will be new 5-year-grants.
- **Funding** awards must be made by **March 31, 2015**.



## Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants

**Estimated Funding:** **\$500,000,000**

**Expected Number of Awards:** 300

**Estimated Award Ceiling:** \$54,933,590

**Estimated Award Floor:** \$750,000

**State Allocations: New York** **\$24,972,392**

### Estimated Milestone Dates:

**Application Due Date:** 08/20/2014

**Estimated Award Date:** 11/30/2014

**Estimated Start Date:** 12/01/2014

# Three Application Options

- 1) EHS-Child Care Partnership
- 2) Non-Partnership Early Head Start Expansion
- 3) Mix of EHS-CC Partnership **and** EHS Expansion

Applicant can only submit one application per service area.

# Important Definitions

- Early Head Start (EHS)
- EHS Income eligible
- EHS Categorically eligible

Once determined eligible, an EHS child remains eligible until they transition into their next placement at age three.

# Early Head Start Eligibility

By Income

Family size living below 100% poverty

Categorically Eligible

Children in foster care

Homeless children

Children in families receiving public assistance (**TANF or SSI**) are categorically eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services **regardless of income.**



# Income Guidelines

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/14poverty.cfm>

## 2014 Poverty Guidelines

One Version of the [U.S.] Federal Poverty Measure

[ [Federal Register Notice, January 24, 2013](#) — Full text ]

[ [Prior Poverty Guidelines and Federal Register References Since 1982](#) ]

[ [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) ]

[ [Further Resources on Poverty Measurement, Poverty Lines, and Their History](#) ]

[ [Computations for the 2014 Poverty Guidelines](#) ]

The following figures are the 2014 HHS poverty guidelines which are scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on January 22, 2014. (Additional information will be posted after the guidelines are published.)

### 2014 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Persons in family/household	Poverty guideline
1	\$11,670
2	15,730
3	19,790
4	23,850
5	27,910
6	31,970
7	36,030
8	40,090
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,060 for each additional person.	

# Early Head Start Child Care Partnership



## Funding by Layer



	Layer I Child Care	Layer II Program-Level Comprehensive Services	Layer III Individual Child Comprehensive Services
EHS eligible child with CC subsidy	CC	EHS	EHS
EHS eligible child without CC subsidy	EHS	EHS	EHS
EHS ineligible child	CC or other non-EHS resources	EHS	Other non-EHS resources





## Layer I: Child Care Services

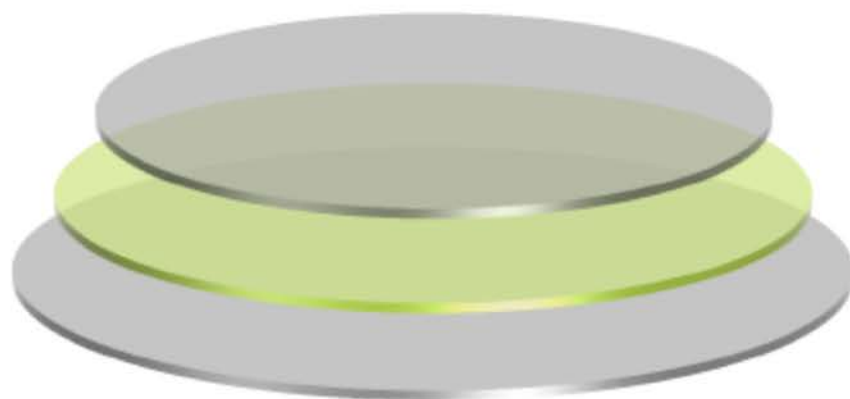


- Full-day full-year child care services.
- Funded by CC vouchers, subsidies, contracts, other
- If loss of subsidy occurs, only then could EHS funds be used, and only for EHS eligible children.





## Layer II: Program-Level Comprehensive Services



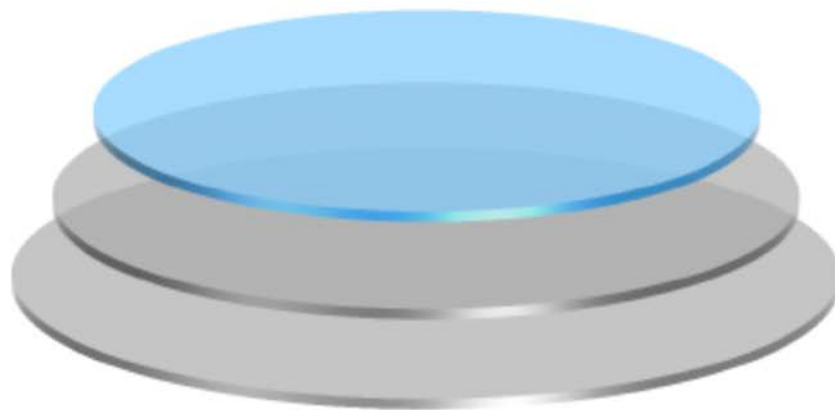
### Filling the gap in existing child care services

- Some CC may already provide these services.
- Where gap in services, EHS funds may be used.
- These enhancements benefit all children.
- Costs must be reasonable and allowable.
- Salary and benefit increases
- Staff training to meet EHS requirements.
- Increased staffing levels to meet EHS child/staff ratios.
- Equipment and supplies
- Minor facility improvements to meet health & safety requirements
- MH contracts to conduct classroom observations
- Parent training
- Other





## Layer III: Individual Child Comprehensive Services



### EHS-required individual services

*Chargeable to EHS only when provided to EHS-eligible children.*

Examples include

- Screenings for developmental, sensory and behavioral concerns
- Referrals to outside agencies (e.g. Part C for special needs).
- Assigned family service workers and visits
- Home visits (teacher)
- Infant formula, diapers.
- Programs encouraged to identify local resources to extend these services to all enrolled children.
- Other



# Layered Funding Earns More Points

- 3 points if more than 40% of eligible children are receiving child care subsidy
- 5 points if the children being served live in a high-poverty zip code

# Non-negotiables

- Early Head Start funds cannot replace existing CCDF or other funds used to operate the child care partner program.
- Existing child care funds must continue to cover ongoing child care costs.
- Early Head Start funds are layered on existing child care funds.
- Continuity of care is paramount.

# The Role of Local Social Services Districts

Funding priority will be given to applicants that:

“can show evidence of broad-scale impact through changes in state [local] policies, including licensing that supports higher quality infant and toddler care or *[other changes] that reduce the likelihood of families losing subsidies when family conditions change.*”



# The *GOAL*...

... to keep infants and toddlers in the Early Head Start program until they turn 3-years-old.



# The Tools in the Toolbox

- District autonomy and flexibility
- Waivers of selected regulations affecting a family's eligibility for subsidy, and/or the continuity of a child's participation in an Early Head Start child care program
- Expedited approval of waiver requests



# Waivers

- **Family Co-Pay** – Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.3(e) for families in receipt of child care in lieu of Temporary Assistance.
- **Flexibility in Eligibility Periods** – Waive 18 NYCRR § 404.1(d) so as to match child care eligibility periods to the EHS Child Care Partnership program period regardless of changes in the parent's eligibility.

# Another Waiver

- **Flexibility in Reporting Changes in Family Circumstances** – Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.4 (b)(2) that requires applicants and recipients to report immediately any change in financial circumstances, living arrangements, employment, household composition, or other circumstances that affect the family's need or eligibility for child care services.

# (at least) One More Waiver

- **Pay for Enrollment** – Waive 18 NYCRR § 415.6(b), which allows districts to elect to make a payment on behalf of children who are temporarily absent. Districts selecting this option must indicate the number of days they will allow or if they have elected to not to limit the number of allowable absences

# Expedited Approval

- 2-page pre-written letter, prepared by OCFS, with checkboxes
- Check the box(es) that represent your waiver request.
- Mail, fax, or scan the letter back to OCFS.
- Done!

# Next Steps

- Application Due Date: August 20, 2014
- Expect contact from prospective applicants.
- Decide whether or not to request a waiver and, after public comment period,
- Receive expedited approval.

# Questions?





# Contact Information

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