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August 29, 2016

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

On July 1, 2016 the federal Child Care Development Block Grant ("CCDBG) Act, which provides federal tax dollars to states to provide child care services for low-income families and improve the quality of child care, adopted the following changes to the eligibility requirements:

1. 12 - month eligibility period for all School Readiness ("SR") families
2. Three Month Purpose for Care Reestablishment Period
3. New Eligibility Process for At-Risk Enrollments

Effective, September 1, 2016, the Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc. ("ELC") will implement these new eligibility requirements. Please share this information with your SR families. Provided below are additional details.

Implementation of 12-Month Eligibility Requirements:

Families who meet eligibility requirements for SR (where funding is available) will receive child care assistance for 12 months regardless of changes in family income, as long as the family's income does not exceed the federal threshold of 85% of the State medium income (SMI) (ex: \$55,899 for a family of 4). This change will go into effect at the family's next redetermination date, should they continue to qualify for SR. All SR families are still required to notify a counselor at Broward Regional Health Planning Council ("BRHPC") within 10 days after any change in employment, income, or family size.

Three Month Purpose for Care Reestablishment Period:

If a SR family has changes in participation in work, training or education activities (and as a result does not have a reason for care), the family will be allowed to continue to receive child care for 3-months to re-establish a purpose for care (employment or education). At the end of this period, if a purpose for care is not re-established, child care assistance will be discontinued.

New Eligibility Process for At-Risk Enrollments

For all new and re-determined At-Risk children (billing group—

BG1), 12 months of eligibility will be authorized regardless of the time period indicated on the referral. For the relative caregiver at-risk billing group (BG3RCG), TANF Child Only (BG3-28A), and Transitional Child Care (BG5) children, the authorization period will be 12 months or less. Children eligible under Temporary Cash Assistance (billing groups-BG3 and BG3W), TCA Respite (billing group-WRC), and Temporary Child Care Assistance Applicant (billing group-BG3AP) will retain the eligibility authorization periods currently in effect. However, this does not mean that referring agencies should change current practice regarding time periods of referrals. The referring agency should continue to follow the agency's own current practice and policy when determining the length of the referral. However, if the at-risk referral is not renewed during the 12-month eligibility period and the family has a valid purpose for care, the at-risk child's SR child care funding will be continued for the remainder of the 12-month eligibility authorization under the billing group that aligns with the new purpose for care.

Enclosed you will find additional details regarding the newly adopted CCDBG requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a counselor at BRHPC at (954) 561-9681.

Sincerely,



Renee Jaffe
Chief Executive Officer

cc: file

Attachment: Implementation of 12-month Eligibility; Frequently Asked Questions