



**State of New Jersey**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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*Governor*

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*Lt. Governor*

10/29/2021

Dear Child Care Provider:

You are receiving this letter because you serve families enrolled in New Jersey's Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development (DHS/DFD), Child Care Assistance Program. As of November 2021, reimbursement rates will increase for licensed child care centers and additionally, DHS/DFD will cover the copay amount for all participating families over the next two years. The new payment rates are scheduled to be published on November 15, 2021. Please visit <https://www.echildcarenj.org/eccpw/> to see the new increased rates for licensed child care centers.

From November 2021 to October 2023, DHS/DFD's reimbursement rate will include the families' copayment portion. These changes are scheduled to go into effect November 1, 2021 and will be reflected in the November 23, 2021 direct deposit. Therefore, as of November 1, 2021, you must no longer collect copayments from families for the next two (2) years. This applies whether you are a licensed child care center or another type of child care provider.

**Please note:** Changes to the Parent/Applicant Provider Agreement (PAPA) reflecting these changes will be sent out to you beginning in December 2021. However, affected providers will see the new rates displayed in the payment portal beginning November 15, 2021.

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey, the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency responsible for managing the State's Child Care Assistance Program in your county, is also notifying the families about the waived copays.

Families who select child care providers that charge more than the maximum State rate are also being reminded they are still responsible for paying that difference. However, DHS/DFD strongly encourages providers to accept the State rate as full payment.

Our goal with this rate increase and copayment waiver is to provide relief to child care providers and to support working families by making child care more affordable.

If you have questions, you may contact LaRonda King at The Children's Home Society at 732-557-9633 extension 105.