



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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TO: Organizations Potentially Eligible for an *Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings* (EWPHCCS) Grant

FROM: Lynne Oudekerk, Assistant Director

SUBJECT: Questions and Answers Relating to the *EWPHCCS* Grant Request for Applications (RFA)

DATE: December 13, 2006

Recently your organization received a Request for Applications (RFA) issued by the New York State Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) for an *Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings* grant. Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies who also participate in CACFP are eligible to apply for this funding. Listed below are the questions received regarding the RFA and CACFP's response to them.

1. The RFA specifies that CCR&R agencies must implement this curriculum in licensed child care centers. May we implement the curriculum in family or group family day care homes instead of child care centers?

No. This intervention was developed for implementation in child care centers, specifically centers that serve preschool age children. In order to qualify for this intervention, which is funded in part with federal Food Stamp Nutrition Education funds, selected child care centers must serve Food Stamp Program recipient and eligible families. This is ensured through the selection of child care centers in which at least 50% of the enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced price meals. A listing of licensed child care centers that meet this standard is provided as Attachment 3 to the RFA.

2. Which CCR&R agencies are currently participating in the *EWPHCCS* Grant?

The four CCR&R agencies currently funded, and the counties they currently serve, are: Capital District Child Care Coordinating Council, Inc. (Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady), Child Care Council, Inc. (Monroe, Livingston, Wayne), Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. (Rockland, Dutchess, Orange, Westchester), and Child Care Solutions Inc. (Onondaga).

3. May our agency implement *EWPHCCS* in Head Start centers?

Your agency may implement *EWPHCCS* at any of the licensed child care centers outlined in Attachment 3 to the RFA. Many of the listed centers are Head Start facilities.

4. We have a home-based Head Start program. These three and four year old children receive services two days in their homes and three days at the center each week. May these children participate in *EWPHCCS*?

If the home-based Head Start program is operated in one of the centers included in Attachment 3 to the RFA, and the children are present in the center when the lessons for pre-school children are being offered, they may participate in *EWPHCCS*.

5. May our agency participate if our county does not have 15 eligible child care centers?

Each of the four qualifying CACFP sponsors must implement the intervention in at least 15 individual centers each year. If there are less than 15 eligible child care centers in your county, you may apply as a coalition with one or more eligible agencies that serve other counties. By applying as a coalition, the applicant would have a larger pool of eligible 50% free/reduced centers from which to identify centers. If submitting an application on behalf of a coalition, a letter of agreement signed by the Executive Director of each partnering CCR&R must be included with the application. The letter of agreement must indicate the lead CCR&R agency and contact person as well as how the coalition will operate (i.e., participating centers in each county, travel expenses, etc.). Whether applying independently or as a coalition of CCR&Rs, the overall budget must not exceed the maximum of \$95,000.

6. If my agency is already participating in *EWPHCCS* as a part of a coalition may it withdraw from this coalition and apply on its own?

Yes. Your CCR&R may withdraw from the coalition of CCR&Rs that you are currently participating in in order to apply independently. If your agency intends to do this, your application must include a copy of the letter sent to the lead agency indicating your intent to withdraw from the coalition should your agency be funded.

7. If my agency is participating in *EWPHCCS* as part of a coalition and decides to withdraw and apply on its own, will preference be given to other CCR&R agencies serving child care centers in counties of New York State that have not participated in *EWPHCCS*?

If you intend to withdraw from the *EWPHCCS* coalition that you currently participate in, your county will be transferred from the list of Counties Currently Served to the list of Counties Not Served by Existing *EWPHCCS* Contractors (Attachment 9 to the RFA). This will insure that your agency receives the same consideration as any CCR&R agency applying to serve a non-participating county. Preference will be given to CCR&R Agencies who will serve child care centers in counties not currently served by *EWPHCCS*. To insure this occurs, your application must include a copy of the letter sent to the coalition's lead agency indicating your intent to withdraw from the coalition should your agency be funded.