



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

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**NYC ACS APPROVED BY NY STATE TO OFFER FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION
UNITS FOR LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS**

Social workers can take eligible courses at ACS' James Satterwhite Academy in Manhattan and Queens, and at the ACS Workforce Institute in all boroughs, at no cost

New York, NY – The New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) announced today that it has been recognized by the NYS Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers SW-0402.

Licensed social workers at ACS and contract provider agencies can obtain contact hours through eligible courses at the James Satterwhite Academy, located in Manhattan and Queens, and the ACS Workforce Institute, located in all boroughs, at no cost, effective February 15, 2017.

"I am thrilled we can offer this free educational support to all of our staff working with the most vulnerable children and families in New York City," said **ACS Commissioner David Hansell**. "I encourage every licensed social worker in our agency to take advantage of these academic opportunities. This is part of our commitment to supporting our staff, so they can strengthen their skills and knowledge to best serve New York's children and families in need."

The James Satterwhite Academy and the Workforce Institute support ACS and its provider agencies to enhance the knowledge, skills and values needed by staff to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of New York City's children, youth and families.

Through professional learning initiatives that take learning beyond the classroom, the courses offered by ACS' James Satterwhite Academy and the ACS Workforce Institute incorporate cutting-edge learning methods supported by evidence-based models and use simulation training to establish core competencies for staff working with children and families.

Among the approved courses offered at ACS' James Satterwhite Academy are: Advanced Legal Issues: Effectively Presenting a Child Protective Case in Court; Cultural Competence in Child Welfare Practice; Engaging the Abusive Partner in Domestic Violence Cases; and Understanding the Role of CPS Professionals at the Family Team Conference Child Safety Conference Table.

Among the approved courses offered by the ACS Workforce Institute are: Engaging Parents with Cognitive and Other Developmental Limitations; Motivational Interviewing: Strength-Based Engagement; and Safety and Risk: Investigation, Synthesis and Assessment.



Licensed social workers are required to complete 36 continuing education contact hours throughout the three-year registration period to maintain their licenses. ACS does not charge learners for taking CEU eligible courses at ACS' James Satterwhite Academy and the Workforce Institute.

For more information about ACS Workforce Institute, please visit

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/acs/about/inside/wi/home.page>

About the New York City Administration for Children's Services:

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) protects and promotes safety and well-being of New York City's children and families by providing child welfare, juvenile justice, and early care and education services. In child welfare, ACS contracts with private nonprofit organizations to support and stabilize families at risk of a crisis through preventive services, and provides foster care services for children not able to safely remain at home. The recently released ACS' 2016 [Foster Care Blueprint](#) indicates a 25% increase of children achieving permanency through kinship guardianship and a 5% in adoption rates even as the overall number of children in foster care continued to decline, among other significant progress made to improve case practice and outcomes for children and families in the foster care system. In juvenile justice, ACS manages and funds services including detention and placement, intensive community-based alternatives for youth, and support services for families. In early care and education, ACS coordinates and funds programs and vouchers for close to 100,000 children eligible for subsidized care.

For more information, please visit www.nyc.gov/acs

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