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To: Executive Directors and Fiscal Directors
Foster Care Provider Agencies

From: *SN* Susan Nuccio, Deputy Commissioner /
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Date: January 12, 2012

Subject: Foster Care Rates for Fiscal Year 2012

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) has received the New York State OCFS Administrative Directive 11-OCFS-ADM-13 which provides guidance on the Fiscal Year 2012 rates for the Foster Care Administrative Maximum State Aid Rates (MSAR) for foster care agencies and for the MSAR for Foster Boarding Homes (foster parent stipend).

The administrative rates for all Specialized Family Foster Care programs and all Residential Care programs will be reimbursed at 100% of the MSAR, effective for the July 2011 service period.

We are pleased to note that the Fiscal Year 2012 rates also include an increase for the foster parent stipend. ACS will pay 100% of the MSAR for Foster Boarding Homes (Foster Parent Stipend) effective for the July 2011 service period, provided that these funds are passed through to foster parents by provider agencies.

Regular Family Foster Care programs will continue to be reimbursed at the Fiscal Year 2012 rate of \$33.50, effective for the July 2011 service period.

In addition, ACS will increase the Fiscal Year 2012 Adoption Subsidy rates to reflect 100% of the MSAR for Foster Boarding Home Payments and Adoption Subsidies effective for the July 2011 service period.

Detailed implementation information and agency specific information are contained in the following attachments:

- Payment and Reconciliation Schedule for Foster Care Rates, Fiscal Year 2012
- Agency Specific Foster Care Administrative Rates for Fiscal Year 2012
- OCFS Attachment A - MSAR for Foster Boarding Home Payments and Adoption Subsidies

Thank you for your continued efforts to provide high quality services for New York City children and families.

Copy: Commissioner R. Richter
Lorraine Stephens

Dawn Saffayeh
Jim Purcell, COFCCA



Payment and Reconciliation Schedule for Foster Care Rates Fiscal Year 2012

Prospective Payments for Residential Care Programs

As of the November 2011 service period, rates for all Residential Care Programs will reflect 100% of the Fiscal Year 2012 MSAR as stipulated in New York State OCFS Administrative Directive 11-OCFS-ADM-13 dated November 23, 2011.

Retroactive Rate Increases for Residential Care Programs

All eligible Residential Care programs will receive a single issuance payment in January 2012 reflecting all necessary adjustments related to the increases in the Fiscal Year 2012 rates, retroactive to the July 2011 service period.

Prospective Payment of Specialized Family Foster Care Programs

As of the November 2011 service period, rates for all Specialized Family Foster Care Programs will reflect 100% of the fiscal Year 2012 MSAR, as stipulated in New York State OCFS Administrative Directive 11-OCFS-ADM-13, dated November 23, 2011.

Retroactive Rate Increases for Specialized Family Foster Care Programs

All eligible Specialized Family Foster Care Programs will receive a single issuance payment in January 2012 reflecting all necessary adjustments related to the rate increases in the Fiscal Year 2012 rates, retroactive to the July 2011 service period.

Payment of Regular Family Foster Care Programs

ACS will continue to pay an administrative rate of \$33.50 for Fiscal Year 2012. There are no changes, ongoing or retroactive, to this rate.

Prospective Payment of MSAR for Foster Boarding Homes (Foster Parent Stipend)

ACS will pay 100% of the MSAR for Foster Boarding Homes (Foster Parent Stipend) effective for the December 2011 service period.

Retroactive Payment of MSAR for Foster Boarding Homes (Foster Parent Stipend)

ACS will issue a single issuance payment in February 2012 reflecting all necessary adjustments related to the Fiscal Year 2012 rate increases, retroactive to the July 2011 service period. Please note that provider agencies will be required to submit a signed attestation confirming that all monies associated with the retroactive rate increase have been paid to foster parents. All unspent funds will be recouped by ACS. Detailed instructions and an attestation form will be sent to provider agencies at the time that the retroactive payment is issued.



**Payment and Reconciliation Schedule for Foster Care Rates
Fiscal Year 2012**

**MSAR Reconciliation for Agencies with an Administrative MSAR Rate
Decrease**

Reconciliation Plan A

ACS will begin a six (6) month recoupment process beginning with the January 2012 service period through the June 2012 service period. ACS will recoup funds owed in six (6) equal installments.

Reconciliation Plan B

If Plan A is not viable for your agency, please submit an alternative plan.

Submission of Reconciliation Plan

If your agency is agreeing to Recoupment Plan A, please respond via e-mail to **both** Ronald Kuch, Ronald.Kuch@dfa.state.ny.us **and** to Ida Anderson, Ida.Anderson@dfa.state.ny.us by January 27, 2012 acknowledging your participation in Plan A.

If your agency would like to propose a Recoupment Plan B, please submit your plan via e-mail to **both** Ronald Kuch, **and** to Ida Anderson, by January 27, 2012.

If ACS does not receive a response from your agency by January 27, 2012, we will initiate Recoupment Plan A as of the January 2012 service period payment.

If you have any questions, please contact the following:

Rate Questions:

Gaitri Bissessar Gaitri.Bissessar@dfa.state.ny.us

SSPS Payment Questions:

Ken Conway Ken.Conway@dfa.state.ny.us

Payment/Reconciliation Process:

Ida Anderson Ida.Anderson@dfa.state.ny.us

Attachment A**Maximum State Aid Rates for Foster Boarding Home Payments and Adoption Subsidies
2011 – 2012 Rate Year (July 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012)****Maximum State Aid Rates for Payments to Foster Parents and for Adoption Subsidies**

	Age 0 – 5		Age 6 – 11		Age 12 and Over	
	Monthly Amount	Per Diem	Monthly Amount	Per Diem	Monthly Amount	Per Diem
Metro *	\$533	\$17.48	\$628	\$20.59	\$727	\$23.84
Upstate	\$486	\$15.93	\$585	\$19.18	\$677	\$22.20

	Monthly Amount	Per Diem
Special Children	\$1,169	\$38.33
Exceptional Children	\$1,772	\$58.10

Maximum State Aid Rates for Clothing Allowances

Age	Monthly Amount	Per Diem
0 – 5	\$30.66	\$1.01
6 – 11	\$42.87	\$1.41
12 – 15	\$66.46	\$2.18
16 and Over	\$81.32	\$2.67

Maximum State Aid Rate for Diaper Allowance

Age	Monthly Amount	Per Diem
0 – 3	\$ 56	\$1.84

Maximum State Aid Rates for Payments to Foster Parents for Emergency Placements

Maximum State Aid Rate is 200% of the MSAR for a Non-Special or Non-Exceptional Child.

* Metro includes the following districts: NYC, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester and Rockland counties.