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# Care 4 Kids Program



## Program Operations TRANSMITTAL

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Transmittal Number: C4K-POL-19-02

Date: July 29, 2019

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**To:** Sherri Sutera, Program Director  
Care 4 Kids Program

**From:** Harriet Feldlaufer, Director *Harriet Feldlaufer*  
Office of Early Childhood

**CC:** Distribution List

**Subject:** Associate's Degree and NAFCC Incentive

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**Program Issue:** The Office of Early Childhood does not pay an additional rate incentive for family child care providers who have earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood. Currently, licensed family child care providers who hold a valid national accreditation certificate recognized under 17b-749-13(d) of the regulations of state agencies receive a 5% payment incentive.

**Background:** The rules governing payment calculations are contained in Section 17b-749-13(d) of the Child Care Assistance Program Regulations. A Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and the Connecticut State Employees Association (CSEA-SEIU Local 2001) has been approved for a general rate increase and other incentives for licensed Family Child Care providers (FCC) and Unlicensed Relative Providers to cover the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022.

Specifically, an additional 3% payment incentive will be given to all family child care providers with an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood. Additionally, licensed family child care providers with a valid national accreditation certificate recognized under 17b-749-13(d) of the regulations of state agencies shall receive an additional 2% payment incentive above the 5% payment incentive. If there are multiple accreditations, including Associate Degree, the associate degree incentive amount will be added to the existing accreditation incentives and the sum of these will be sent for payment. These incentive payments will be above the rates otherwise payable under the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Rules pertaining to the 2% and 3% incentive payments are located in Article Four of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Directive:**

The 2% additional accreditation incentive and 3% Associate's Degree incentive are effective July 1, 2019. Eligibility for incentives (NAFCC Accreditation and Associate's Degree):

- Licensed Family Child Care and unlicensed relative providers who have earned an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood.
- Licensed Family Child Care who have earned NAFCC Accreditation.
- All documents must be submitted to the OEC Professional Registry either via fax or uploaded to the Registry website.
- Documents are verified by the OEC and added to the provider's Professional Registry.

The OEC Professional Registry staff will provide Care 4 Kids (C4K) a report on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month confirming C4K providers who have verified Associate's Degree and/or NAFCC Accreditation. C4K will reissue the eligible certificate with the approved incentive (3% rate increase Associate's Degree and 2% additional incentive for NAFCC)

Questions concerning this transmittal can be referred to Office of Early Childhood at 860-500-4421.

HF:ct