Care 4 Kids Program



Program Operations TRANSMITTAL

Transmittal Number: C4K-POL- 16-04 Date: June 28, 2016

To: Sherri Sutera, Program Director

Care 4 Kids Program

From: Harriet Feldlaufer, Director of Early Care and Education

Office of Early Childhood

CC: Distribution List

Subject: Program Income Eligibility Threshold Change for PG4 and PG4 closure

Program Issue: Effective July 1, 2016 the Care 4 Kids program income eligibility threshold will change for Priority Group 4. For all other priority groups the income thresholds remain the same.

Background: The Federal Government has made many changes to the child care subsidy program, which impact Connecticut's Care 4 Kids Program. These new Federal requirements will increase the costs to provide subsidy through the Care 4 Kids Program. Under the regulations, the agency must accept applications and authorize payments based on the applicable order of priorities only *within available funding*. Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 17b-749-08 (a).

Implementation: In order to ensure that the Care 4 Kids Program continues to exist "within available funding" the following changes shall occur to the Care 4 Kids program.

- 1. Applications effective July 1, 2016 July 31, 2016
 - a) For working families entering the Care 4 Kids program, the income eligibility threshold will be 30% or less of the State Median Income (SMI) (PG4).
 - b) Income eligibility thresholds for all other priority groups remain the same
- 2. At redetermination, families who meet the current eligibility requirements and whose household income is below 50 percent of the State Median Income (SMI) will remain eligible at redetermination (PG4).
- 3. At redetermination, families who have received TFA in the past 60 months will continue to receive assistance until their household income equal to or exceeds 55% of the SMI (PG2).
- 4. Priority groups PG5 and PG6 will be closed at application and redetermination.
- 5. Applications effective August 1, 2016
 - a) The Care 4 Kids Program will be closed for new applications from working families (PG4) whose household income is below 50% of the SMI. These families will be placed on a wait list.
- 6. Priority groups (PG1, PG2, and PG3) remain open to new applications.
- 7. Priority groups PG5 and PG6 will be closed at application and redetermination.

Questions concerning this transmittal can be referred to the Office of Early Childhood at 860-713-6422. HF:ct