
Care 4 Kids Program

POLICY TRANSMITTAL



DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES-CHILD CARE TEAM

Transmittal Number: C4K-POL-05-05

Date: August 17, 2005

To: Sherri Sutera, Program Director
Care 4 Kids Program

From: Claudette J. Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner of Programs
Department of Social Services

CC: Policy Distribution List

Subject: **Changes in Treatment of Substantiated Cases Reversed by DCF**

Program Issue: This transmits guidance regarding situations where DCF has issued a reversal or waiver of a substantiated allegation of child abuse/neglect.

Background: Section 17b-749-12(f)(2) of the Care 4 Kids regulations provides that in cases where the findings are reversed, payments may be authorized as of the date verification of the decision by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or Public Safety is submitted to the department. Subdivision (4) of subsection (d) gives the Commissioner discretion to refuse payments to any provider if the person was the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect. Under subdivision (5) of subsection (d) the commissioner shall have discretion to refuse payment if the provider has a child abuse or neglect allegation pending.

Under present policy, providers are not eligible for payment if they have a substantiated report of abuse/neglect with DCF. Payment is discontinued when Care 4 Kids is notified of the report. If DCF reverses the substantiation the provider becomes eligible for payment effective the date that the reversal notice is submitted to the department. No retroactive payment is authorized.

Under this change, Care 4 Kids will continue to refuse payment to any provider that was the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect. However, in cases where the substantiated findings are waived or reversed by DCF, providers are now authorized to receive payments retroactive to the date the provider began providing care, if all other eligibility criteria are satisfied.

Other Considerations: To be eligible for retroactive payments, the provider must, within thirty days of the notice of provider ineligibility, ask DCF to review of the substantiation. If DCF reverses the substantiation, the provider must notify Care 4 Kids within 30 days of receiving reversal notification from DCF. Upon receipt of the reversal notification Care 4 Kids will determine family and provider eligibility retroactive to the date the provider began providing care and, if eligible, authorize payment.

Implementation: Care 4 Kids is directed to share this information with staff and to include the information in future training exercises.

Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033

Connecticut's Lead Agency for Child Care Services

CJB:wh