

14-505-5

Child Care Information Services
Of Cambria County
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Ebensburg, PA 15931
(800) 492-9292
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JUL 24 2006

CCIS of Cambria County

July 19, 2006

Mr. Robert J. Frein, Director
Bureau of Subsidized Child Care Services
Office of Child Development
Health & Welfare Building, Room 521
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Mr. Frein:

This letter references the proposed regulations in the PA Bulletin, Regulation No. 14-505, Section 168 concerning the unification of childcare programs for the Office of Child Development. The Child Care Information Services of Cambria County recognizes the importance of providing TANF families with the support needed to complete educational or training programs. These parents are attempting to improve their lives by achieving a higher level of education necessary to obtain employment. They must have access to reliable childcare to accomplish their goals. By authorizing the local CCIS to manage all childcare services for their county, the agency can now develop a relationship with both parents and childcare providers. The CCIS will become the established agency to provide childcare services to all clients in the county.

We disagree with the proposed regulation #168.82 time frames for authorization of payment. The time frame uses a deadline of payment in 10 calendar days if the verification of childcare costs is received within five calendar days of request for payment. Further, the department will authorize payment within five calendar days if the verification of childcare costs is received more than five days following the request for payment.

The current procedure states that invoices are to be submitted to the CCIS by the fifth day of the month following the month of care. Childcare providers who submit accurate invoices by this deadline will be paid by the 20th day of that month. Late and incorrect invoices will be paid by the next payment cycle.

We contest the proposed regulation because the deadline for payment is unrealistic for the program. We want to recommend the continuation and enactment of the current time frame for payment.

The CCIS of Cambria County eagerly anticipates the unification of childcare programs. This union will benefit both parents and providers by offering one agency to address childcare services for the county.

Sincerely,



Ronald A. Kikta
Executive Director

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