



## Office of Children and Family Services

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**SUZANNE MILES-GUSTAVE, ESQ.**  
Acting Commissioner

March 8, 2024

The Honorable Liz Krueger  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 416  
Albany, NY 12247  
[financechair@nysenate.gov](mailto:financechair@nysenate.gov)

The Honorable Helene Weinstein  
Chair, Assembly Ways & Means Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 923  
Albany, NY 12248  
[wamchair@nyassembly.gov](mailto:wamchair@nyassembly.gov)

**\*\*\*via e-mail\*\*\***

Dear Chairs Krueger and Weinstein:

Thank you again for the opportunity to present Governor Hochul's proposed budget as it relates to the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) at the Human Services Budget Hearing on January 31, 2024. Please see below follow-up information.

### Domestic Violence State Aid Rates

As noted at the hearing, the rate methodology for the Domestic Violence State Aid Rates (DVSAR) includes a growth adjustment factor for Personal Services. The following growth factors have been applied to the DVSAR over the past several years:

New York City DVSAR – Rate Year (RY) runs from July 1 through June 30

- 2023-24: 3%
- 2022-23: 4.4%
- 2021-22: 3.25%
- 2020-21: 3.25%

Rest of State DVSAR – RY runs from January 1 through December 31

- 2023: 4.4%
- 2022: 3.25%
- 2021: 3.25%
- 2020: 3.25%

## After School Programs

There are currently 34,000 children being served by the Advantage and Empire State After School Programs.

The Advantage After School program awarded 136 contracts at 190 program sites for the current funding cycle, which will end on August 31, 2024. For reference, a list of those providers is available on our website: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/news/article.php?idx=1982>

The Empire State After School program awarded 69 contracts at approximately 296 program sites for the current funding cycle, which will end on August 31, 2024. For reference, a list of those providers is also available on the OCFS website at: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/empire-after-school.php#1-Empire-State-After-School-Program-Data>

I am pleased to report that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the new, combined, after school program – NYS Learning and Enrichment After-school Program Supports (LEAPS) – was released on February 12, 2024. LEAPS is expected to serve more than 40,000 children in high-need areas cross the state. Information on LEAPS, including a link to the RFP, is available on the OCFS website: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/leaps-after-school.php>

Thank you for your dedication to the people of New York and for your perseverance through the countless hours of testimony over the course of these Joint Hearings. I look forward to our continued partnership in promoting the safety, permanency and well-being of New York's children, families, and communities.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Miles-Gustave, Esq.  
Acting Commissioner