



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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Jude White, Assistant Commissioner
Child Care and Community Services
Tennessee Department of Human Services
James K. Polk Building, 15th Floor
505 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Assistant Commissioner White:

The Office of Child Care has completed its review of the proposed waivers to Tennessee's conditionally approved Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for 2019-2021, submitted on August 16, 2019.

This letter is to inform you that the following CCDF Plan waivers for sections 5.4.6(a), 5.4.6(b), 5.4.7(a), and 5.4.7(b) Criminal Background Checks were approved.

- **Section 5.4.6(a) Interstate criminal registry or repository check for new or prospective staff.** The State is in the process of contracting with an external entity to complete the interstate criminal registry check process. The state needs the additional time to complete all the contractual arrangements, evaluate the effectiveness of the contract, and complete the criminal registry checks on existing staff.
- **Section 5.4.6(b) Interstate criminal registry or repository check for existing staff.** The State is in the process of contracting with an external entity to complete the interstate criminal registry check process. The state needs the additional time to complete all the contractual arrangements, evaluate the effectiveness of the contract, and complete the criminal registry checks on existing staff.
- **Section 5.4.7(a) Interstate sex offender registry or repository check for new or prospective staff.** The state will employ a gradual systematic implementation of the remaining interstate sex offender registry check process components throughout the extended waiver period. The additional waiver time will be used to execute necessary contracts, finalize internal procedures, evaluate results, and complete information technology system.
- **Section 5.4.7(b) Interstate sex offender registry or repository check for existing staff.** The state will employ a gradual systematic implementation of the remaining interstate sex offender registry check process components throughout the extended waiver period. The

additional waiver time will be used to execute necessary contracts, finalize internal procedures, evaluate results, and complete information technology system.

The effective date, August 16, 2019, for these waivers for the Tennessee CCDF Plan is noted on the ACF-118 electronic submission site. The waiver renewals are approved for a period of no more than one additional year. States are expected to be in full compliance of the background check requirements of Section 5.4 by September 30, 2020. OCC does not have authority under the current law to grant any additional extensions after this date.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free contact Eric Blanchette, Child Care Program Manager in our Regional Office at 404-562-2782 or eric.blanchette@acf.hhs.gov.

We appreciate your efforts to meet the child care needs of eligible families in the State of Tennessee and look forward to our continued partnership in the administration of your Child Care and Development Fund Program.

Sincerely,

Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Office of Child Care

cc: Gwen Laaser, Tennessee Director of Child Care Services
Eric Blanchette, OCC Regional Program Manager, Region IV
Francesca Longo, Regional Liaison, Office of Child Care