

Department for Children, Youth and Families

Backup Material to Retroactively Approve a Contractual Agreement Between the New York State Department of Health and Albany County for the Reimbursement of Administration Costs for Early Intervention

The Department for Children, Youth and Families is seeking Legislative authorization to retroactively enter into a contractual agreement with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) in the amount of \$818,860 for the period of October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2024. The Department is seeking approval to accept this amount retroactively since no request was entered to accept the total amount of the contract for the five years but has been requested on an annual basis instead.

The annual funding amount is \$163,772 for each of the five years included in the period stated above. Under this contract, Albany County will be able to claim reimbursement from the State for administrative costs incurred for the provision of Early Intervention services.

The New York State Early Intervention Program (EIP) is part of the national Early Intervention Program for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. First created by Congress in 1986 under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the EIP is administered by the New York State Department of Health through the Bureau of Early Intervention. In New York State, the Early Intervention Program is established in Article 25 of the Public Health Law and has been in effect since July 1, 1993.

Local governments have responsibility for administering the Early Intervention Program (EIP) subject to regulations of the Commissioner of Health. Administrative funds are provided to all municipalities to offset cost incurred in the implementation of the EIP, exclusive of due process costs. This funding is contingent upon a municipality's compliance with the work plan developed by the Department.

To be eligible for services, children must be less than 3 years of age and have a confirmed disability or established developmental delay, as defined by the State, in one or more of the following areas of development: physical, cognitive, communication, social-emotional, and/or adaptive.