

Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families
Justification for Amended Contractual Agreements between Albany County and
Providers of Qualified Individual Assessments

The Department for Children, Youth and Families is seeking legislative authorization for permission to Amend Contractual Agreements with Qualified Individual provider agencies approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), for the facilitation of services involved with the Family First Prevention Services Act. The previous request did not provide information on the costs involved that were not yet available from OCFS.

The Family First Prevention Services Act will take effect on October 1, 2021. The goal of this legislation is to reduce the number of children in congregate care, and to increase the number of kinship and foster care homes. This legislation is intended to promote interventions that keep children safely at home with relatives or in the community, whenever possible. The goal is to reduce lengths of stay in congregate care and prevent recurrence of placement.

Family First Legislation requires if a child is placed in qualified residential treatment program (QRTP) , within 30 days of the start of each placement, the child must be assessed to determine the appropriate level of care by a qualified individual (QI). This QI is a licensed clinician with a minimum of two years of child welfare experience and will work DCYF, the QRTP and permanency team to develop the assessment within 30 days of the placement in congregate care.

The following agencies are approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family services as Qualified Individual providers to contract with for the term of September 1, 2021- August 31, 2022.

The NYS Office of Children and Family Services has amended their plan to have these services fully reimbursable by Medicaid and now have indicated that each County will be responsible to pay for any non-billable services, which would include file review, collateral contract, writing the report, disseminating document to all parties and testifying in Court. The proposed amount from each of the Qualified Individual is \$2000.00 per assessment. The Department is awaiting further guidance from OCFS to explore other means of County reimbursement.

Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth
13640 State Route 22, Canaan, NY 12029

JCCA Repair the World
858 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210

LaSalle School
391 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

Cornerstone Mobile Counseling
417 East German St, Herkimer, NY 13350

Northern Rivers Family of Services
60 Academy Road, Albany, NY 12208

William George Agency
3829 U.S. Rt. 11, Marathon, NY 13803

St. Anne Institute
160 N. Main Ave, Albany, NY 12206

Hillside Children's Center
1183 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620

St. Catherine's Center for Children
40 N. Main Ave, Albany, NY 12203

Albany Psychological Service
PO Box 3830, Albany, NY 12203

Learning Insights
PO Box 1214, Highland, NY 12528

Maximus US Services, Inc.
6 Bottle Creek Drive, Cape May, NJ 08204