

Albany County Department of Children Youth and Families
Justification and Backup Material for a Contractual Agreement between
Albany County and the Gilboa-Conesville Central School District to Provide
Preschool Services for Children with Special Needs

The New York State Education Law (Section 4410) requires that the New York State Education Department (NYSED) meet the physical and educational needs of children with disabilities. NYSED administers, through local school districts, preschool special education programs and services for preschool students with disabilities, ages 3 to 5 years of age. The board of education or trustees of each School District required, by regulation (Part 200.2(a)), to identify and evaluate all students with disabilities who reside in the school district and establish a register of children who are entitled to attend public schools a preschool program during the school year. As of November of 2017, the law was amended to establish that all School Districts are approved to provide services of preschool students evaluated as having a disability.

Municipalities are required to provide an approved preschool special education program for children who have been evaluated and determined by the school district to have a disabling condition. Albany County may contract with School Districts approved by NYSED as having an appropriate, structured program capable of offering Preschool Services to children with disabilities.

Reimbursement under these agreements shall be at the applicable rates established or approved by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). New York State reimburses Albany County 59% for costs incurred in the delivery of these services after backing out Medicaid reimbursement for the related services component of center based programs.

A resident of Albany County who works in the Gilboa-Conesville Central School District has optioned to have their child utilize the services provided there.

The Department for Children, Youth and Families respectfully request legislative authorization to enter into a contractual agreement with the Gilboa-Conesville Central School District, to Provide Preschool Services for Children with Special Needs for the term of October 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.