

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

The Department respectfully requests Legislative authorization to enter into contractual agreements with the below provider agencies for the term of September 1, 2023- August 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 per Provider

The Family First Prevention Services Act took effect on October 1, 2021. The goal of this legislation was 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). The 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 Providers will be reimbursed an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 per each assessment, for the aforementioned services. There is no anticipated cost to the county for the assessments, as they will be paid by Medicaid through the Child and Family Treatment Services and Supports (CFTSS) initiative.

The following agencies have been approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family services as Qualified Individual providers:

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

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

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

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

LaSalle School
391 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

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

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