



### OCFS and Medication Administration

In a previous Dear Director & Dear Provider Letters from NYS Office of Children and Family Services included information regarding emergency medication. The letter noted the following information:

#### **Medication Administration Training (MAT)**

The authorization to administer medication to children in care is a benefit to parents and children, and a marketing plus for providers. Parents search the website for child day care programs that offer this service, as many cannot leave work to administer medications. OCFS encourages child day care

programs to take advantage of the OCFS funds available for medication administration training and CCR&R health care consultant services in developing a health care plan for your program. Enclosed you will find a brochure explaining how to become MAT certified.

#### **Medication Administration**

Emergency Medication Emergency medications are limited to epinephrine auto injectors, diphenhydramine in combination with the auto injector, asthma inhalers and nebulizers. Regulation defines how and under what circumstances these specified emergency medications may be given to children in child care. **Programs must refer to the regulations for a clear understanding of the rules regarding the administration of these emergency medications.** This does not mean that other emergency medications don't exist, but the administration of any other emergency medications requires that the program become authorized to administer medication.

#### **Health Care Plans**

A program's approved Health Care Plan directs when and under what circumstances medications may be administered. Programs must follow their approved Plan and all Individual Health Care Plans on file.

#### **Individual Health Care Plan Permissions and Updates**

- Whenever changes are made in the plan of care for a child with special health care needs, or the program staff that provides that care, the child's individual Health Care Plan must be updated.
  - Additionally, if the program staff that provides that care changes, the newly designated caregiver(s) must receive instruction directly from the child's parent or health care provider.
- Contact your licensor or registrar if you have questions about your program's authorization to administer medications.

Click below to read – **MAT Brochure:**

[http://res.pdp.albany.edu/ECETPWebsite/files/MAT/MAT\\_TRIFOLD\\_WEB.pdf](http://res.pdp.albany.edu/ECETPWebsite/files/MAT/MAT_TRIFOLD_WEB.pdf)

Contact the Health Services Department to learn more about the MAT Course, emergency medication, and the benefits of becoming approved to administer medication.

