



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY,
NY 12234

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
Office of Performance Improvement and Management Services
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October 24, 2017

RECEIVED
EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Hon. Thomas P. DiNapoli
New York State Comptroller
110 State Street, 15th Floor
Albany, NY 12236

OCT 30 2017
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI
COMPTROLLER

Dear Comptroller DiNapoli:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 170 of the Executive Law, the following are actions that the State Education Department (Department) has taken, or will be taking, to implement the recommendations contained in the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC) Final Audit Report (2016-S-3) Compliance with the Reimbursable Cost Manual: East River Child Development Center (ERCDC).

Recommendation 1: Review the recommended disallowances resulting from our audit and make the appropriate adjustments to the costs reported on ERCDC's CFRs and tuition reimbursement rates.

The Department is currently in the process of reviewing the Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR) and OSC audit work papers and will make necessary adjustments and recover any overpayments as appropriate by recalculating tuition rates.

Recommendation 2: Work with ERCDC's officials to help ensure their compliance with the provisions in the Manual.

The Department will continue to provide technical assistance whenever requested and will strongly recommend the ERCDC officials take advantage of our availability to help them better understand the standards for reimbursement as presented in Regulation and the Reimbursable Cost Manual (RCM). Furthermore, CFR training is available online on the Department's webpage. The Department recommends that all individuals signing the CFR certification statements, namely Executive Directors and Certified Public Accountants, complete this training. This training is a requirement for preschool special education providers upon approval and re-approval.

Furthermore, the Department will require ERCDC to identify the actions it has taken to cure and correct the deficiencies and/or violations identified in the audit. ERCDC's submission to the Department must be certified by its Chief Executive Officer, with an attestation from each director, officer, trustee, and shareholder, and

must contain all relevant information describing how policies, procedures and practices have been revised to address the specific findings of the audit, and how systemic changes to the internal controls and financial oversight have been implemented.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Suzanne Bolling, Director of Special Education Fiscal Policy at 518-474-3227.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Cates-Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sharon Cates-Williams

c: Christopher Suriano
Suzanne Bolling