PREAMBLE

This agreement (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”) has been made and entered into by and between the State of Illinois, Departments of Central Management Services and Human Services (hereinafter referred to as the “State”) and the Service Employees International Union, Healthcare Illinois and Indiana, (hereinafter referred to as the “Union”). The Union and the State recognize the unique employment arrangement of day care home licensed and license exempt providers (hereinafter referred to as “Providers”) and Parents or Legal Guardians (hereinafter referred to as “Parents”) receiving services in the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child Care and Development, Child Care Assistance Program (hereinafter referred to as the “Child Care Assistance Program”), nor will this Agreement in any way diminish the Parents’ control over the selection and termination of Providers within the limits set by the Child Care Assistance Program. Providers are not State employees for purposes of eligibility to receive statutorily mandated benefits, including but not limited to, workers’ compensation, retirement and health insurance.

The parties enter into this agreement acknowledging the following:

- The Union and the State share a common mission to ensure that every Illinois family has access to quality child care.
- Access to quality child care is essential for families transitioning from welfare to work as well as for those low and moderate income families striving to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.
- Providers, the State and Illinois families have a shared interest in making child care a quality job and a respected profession.
- The parties agree to work together as partners to serve the needs of working families and to meet the highest standards in such service.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

The following terms shall be interpreted as indicated below when used in this Agreement:

a) “State” refers to the Director of Central Management Services, Secretary of the Department of Human Services, or their representatives collectively or singly, as the context may require.

b) “Parent” refers to any applicant that has been determined eligible for services through the Child Care Assistance Program pursuant to 89 Ill. Admin. Code, Section 50.210 and 89 Ill. Admin. Code, Section 50.230; is receiving services through the Child Care Assistance Program; or has received services through the Child Care Assistance Program.
c) "Provider" refers to an individual selected by a parent to provide child care services and operates as a day care home within the applicable standards of state or local law, including but not limited to licensure requirements for Group Day Care Homes and Day Care Homes promulgated by the Department of Children and Family Services at 89 Ill. Admin. Code, Chapter III, Subchapter (e); and within the legal care arrangement definitions set forth by the Department of Human Services at 89 Ill. Admin. Code, Section 50.240 (a) 3-8, (b), (c), and (d).

d) "Child Care Assistance Program" refers to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child Care and Development, Child Care Assistance Program defined under 305 ILCS 5/9A-11.

e) "Union" refers to Service Employees International Union, Healthcare Illinois and Indiana.

ARTICLE I – UNION RECOGNITION

Section 1. Union Recognition

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 2005-1 and Public Act 94-0320, the Union was recognized on July 15, 2005, as the exclusive representative of Providers providing services for the State as part of the child care assistance program administered by the Department of Human Services under 305 ILCS 5/9A-11 and 89 Ill. Admin. Code, Section 50.210 et seq. The State shall be considered the party of record solely for the purposes of collective bargaining over issues within its control.

Section 2. Integrity of the Bargaining Unit

The State recognizes the integrity of the bargaining unit and will not take any action intended to erode it. No action taken by the Parent shall be considered erosion of the bargaining unit.

ARTICLE II – NON-DISCRIMINATION

The State agrees not to discriminate against any Provider on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, creed, religion, color, marital or parental status, age, national origin, political affiliation and/or beliefs, disability, gender identity, or for other non-merit factors. The State will not consider immigration status beyond DHS/CCAP’s and the Comptroller’s implementation of federal requirements that Providers must have a Social Security Number/Card. Nothing in this Article shall limit the rights of Parents as provided for in Article VI.
ARTICLE III – DIGNITY AND RESPECT

The State, the Union, and Providers will treat each other with dignity and respect.
ARTICLE IV – UNION RIGHTS

Section 1. Union Exclusivity

The State shall not meet, discuss, confer, subsidize or negotiate with any other employee organization or its representatives on matters pertaining to all terms and conditions of employment of Providers participating in the Child Care Assistance Program that are within the State's control. Nor shall the State negotiate with Providers over terms and conditions of employment within the State's control.

Section 2. Union Activity

The State agrees that no Provider shall be discriminated against, intimidated, restrained or coerced in or on account of the exercise of any rights granted by the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act or by this Agreement, on account of membership or non-membership in, or lawful activities on behalf of the Union.

Section 3. Union Representatives

The Union shall notify the State of the names of its official representatives and changes in such representatives. The list and updates shall be sent to the Department of Central Management Services, Office of Labor Relations. The Union shall notify the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Labor Relations of the names of stewards selected by the Union at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Section 4. Neutrality

The State shall remain neutral on the question of union membership and union representation for Providers. All questions addressed to the State concerning membership in or representation by the Union will be referred to the Union.

Section 5. Lists

The State will provide lists of Providers (as specified below) electronically on a monthly basis (by the fifteenth (15th) calendar day of each month, unless the fifteenth is a holiday or weekend) to the Union:

a) A list indicating all Providers who were paid a subsidy or subsidies in the previous calendar month as a product of their participation in the Child Care Assistance Program. For each payment sent to the office of the Comptroller during the prior month, this list will include: the Provider name, business name, Social Security number, FEIN number, CARS address indicator, service date, payment amount, co-payment amount, charge amount, quality add-on amount, quality percentage, quality level, SEIU membership indicator, SEIU member dues, SEIU initiation fee, SEIU PAC/COPE fee, adjustments, type of care code, number of children paid, number of days paid, CCAP.
rate(s) paid, document ID, document number, reported mail date, and time stamp. For providers participating in Child Care Collaborations, such participation shall be noted.

b) In addition, the State will provide a list indicating the Providers who had approved active cases for Child Care services for the previous calendar month. This list will include the following information, to the extent available, for each Provider: name, business name, Social Security number, FEIN number, CARS address indicator, birth date, Provider's preferred language, street address, city, state, zip code, county, primary telephone number, secondary telephone number, e-mail address, type of care code, SEIU membership indicator. For providers participating in Child Care Collaborations, such participation shall be noted.

c) A list indicating all Providers who received payment for providing Child Care services during the last service month for which billing is complete, generally three months (3) prior to the date of the report. This list will include the following information, to the extent available, for each Provider: Provider name, business name, Social Security number, FEIN number, birth date, CARS address indicator, address, zip code, county, telephone number, e-mail address, payment amount, service date, charge amount, co-pay amount, quality add-on amount, quality percentage, quality level, SEIU membership indicator, SEIU member dues, SEIU initiation fee, SEIU PAC/COPE fee, adjustments, type of care code, number of children paid, number of days paid, CCAP rate(s) paid, document ID, document number, reported mail date, and time stamp. For providers participating in Child Care Collaborations, such participation shall be noted.

d) Any additional files related to errors and corrections of the above lists.

Section 6. Union Orientation

The State shall notify the Union and shall grant access, not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, to "What is CCAP" training and other trainings that are required of Child Care Resources and Referral agencies by the State in connection with the Child Care Assistance Program for the purpose of addressing represented Providers. The presentation topics shall be limited to the following: the organization, Provider's representation status, union benefits and to distribute membership applications.

Section 7. Bulletin Boards

The Union shall be allowed to provide and maintain a reasonably sized bulletin board at Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child Care and Development Offices at 401 S. Clinton, Chicago and 400 W. Lawrence, Springfield and upon written request by the Union at each Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, unless prohibited by the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency's lease. Items posted shall not be political, partisan or defamatory in nature.
Section 8. Notices

The State will provide to the Union a copy of any notice provided by the State, and any notices the State directs CCR&Rs or INCCRA to send to Providers.

Section 9. Provision of Union Information to New Providers

When an individual initially becomes eligible to provide Child Care services through the Child Care Assistance Program, the State shall transmit to said individual, along with their first certificate, a letter drafted solely by the Union concerning union representation and union membership. The letter shall not be political, partisan or defamatory in nature.

ARTICLE V - MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1. Rights Residing with the State

Except as amended, changed, or modified by this Agreement, the State reserves exclusively all the inherent rights and authority to manage and operate its programs. The parties agree that all rights not granted in this Agreement are reserved solely to the State and the State has the right to decide and implement its decisions regarding such rights without negotiating about the decision. Examples of the rights reserved solely to the State, its agents and officials include, but are not limited to, the right: to operate so as to carry out the statutory mandate of the State; to establish the State's missions, programs, objectives, activities and priorities; to plan, direct and control the use of resources, including all aspects of the budget, in order to achieve the State's missions, programs, objectives, activities and priorities; to manage, direct, and control all of the State's activities to deliver programs and services; to develop, modify and administer policies, procedures, rules and regulations and determine the methods and means by which operations are to be carried out; to determine eligibility and requirements of providers; to make, extend, limit and execute contracts and all other instruments necessary or convenient for the performance of the State's duties or exercise of the State's powers, including contracts with public and private agencies, organizations, corporations or individuals; to determine the State's organization; to take whatever actions the State deems necessary to carry out services when the State determines an emergency; to maintain or modify any and all public operations and work requirements entrusted to the State to more efficiently and effectively provide services. This section shall not constitute a waiver by the Union to negotiate the impact of changes to the Child Care Assistance Program affecting terms and conditions of employment under the State's control.

Section 2. Non-Waiver

The above enumerations of the State's rights are not inclusive and do not exclude other rights not specified including those duties, obligations or authority provided under law,
except that the exercise of such rights shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this Agreement. The exercise or non-exercise of rights retained by the State shall not be construed to mean that any right of the State is waived.

ARTICLE VI - PARENT RIGHTS

Section 1. Parent Rights

Nothing in this Agreement limits the parents' sole and undisputed right to select and to terminate without cause and without notice the services of any Provider. Parents shall retain the right to direct services rendered by the Provider and determine what circumstances anyone may enter their homes.

Section 2. Information Regarding Parents

Union Representatives and Providers shall maintain strict standards of confidentiality regarding Parents and Children and shall not disclose personal information pertaining to Parents and Children obtained from any source unless the disclosure is compelled by the legal process or otherwise required by law.

Section 3. Union Access

Union Representatives shall not conduct Union business, including business related to the enforcement of this Agreement, or contact in person or via telephone Providers at the home of the Parent or Child, if the home is not the Provider's address of record.

Section 4. Non-Waiver

The above enumerations of the Parent’s rights are not inclusive and do not exclude other rights not specified including those duties, obligations or authority provided under law. The exercise or non-exercise of rights retained by the Parent shall not be construed to mean that any right of the Parent is waived. No action taken by the Parent with respect to this Article shall be subject to the grievance procedure.

Section 5. Disputes between Providers and Parents

Should a dispute arise between a Provider and a Parent, the Union may, on the Provider’s behalf, submit an inquiry to the DHS Child Care staff summarizing the dispute in an effort to collect information that may be helpful in resolving the dispute.
ARTICLE VII - RATE STRUCTURE

Section 1. Rates

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B. County Groupings

Group 1A - Counties are Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake & McHenry.
Group 1B - Counties are Boone, Champaign, Kankakee, Madison, McLean, Monroe, Ogle, Peoria, Rock Island, Sangamon, St. Clair, Tazewell, Whiteside, Will, Winnebago & Woodford.
Group 2 - Counties include all other counties not listed above.

C. Hours of Care

Providers shall be paid the part-day rate or school age rate if the care provided is less than 5 hours per day.

Providers shall be paid the full day rate for the care provided from 5 through 12 hours per day.

If the care provided is more than 12 hours but less than 17 hours in a day, the provider shall be paid the full day rate for the first 12 hours of care and the part day rate for the remainder.
If the care provided is from 17 to 24 hours in a day, the provider shall be paid the full day rate for the first 12 hours and a full day rate for the remainder.

D. Early Learning

Providers shall be paid for a full day of care if a child is approved for a full day of care and attends a part-day Head Start or Pre-K program during that day.

Section 2. Quality Incentives

For license-exempt Providers, the following rate add-ons will be applied to CCAP base rates for the corresponding QRIS tiers:

- Tier 1: 10%
- Tier 2: 15%
- Tier 3: 20%

For licensed Providers, the following rate add-ons will be applied to CCAP base rates for the corresponding QRIS tiers:

- Licensed: No Add-On
- Bronze: No Add-On
- Silver: 10% per CCAP child
- Gold: 15% per CCAP child

a. Providers shall be eligible to receive a collaboration add-on of 10% for each child, for up to three children, who attends a part-day Head Start or Pre-K program during eligible child care days not exceeding in the aggregate $1.5 million each fiscal year of the agreement. These Providers shall also participate in training to reinforce the child's education experience in the home setting as reasonably determined by the Joint Training Committee. The parties agree to meet no later than April 30, 2020 to discuss the success of the utilization of this incentive and make any mutually agreed upon modifications.

b. Providers shall receive a special needs add-on of 20% for care of children eligible for child care assistance with a demonstrated disability not exceeding in the aggregate five million dollars ($5,000,000) each fiscal year of the agreement.

ARTICLE VIII – PAYMENT

Section 1. Timely Payment and Provision of Certificates

A. The State shall complete and forward all paperwork necessary for provider payments in a timely manner.
B. Certificates shall be issued in a timely manner. Providers are strongly encouraged to use telephone billing in order to expedite processing and payment.

C. Providers will be paid in accordance with the policies set forth under the Child Care Assistance Program. Upon receipt of paperwork by paper or phone on or before the 5th of the month, the State will make its best effort to pay Providers by the 20th of the month following the month services were provided in a manner which allows for appropriate cash flow related to the utilization of Federal dollars.

D. Providers will be paid through electronic methods and may select either payment via Direct Deposit or Debit Cards. All Providers shall be mailed, or provided by internet, monthly itemized statements detailing for each payment and showing cumulatively all pay period for the duration of this Agreement: case identification number, case first and last name, net payment amount, SEIU deductions, quality add-on amount, child care overpayment deduction amounts, children’s first names and payment amounts up to six children. Such statements may be available to export electronically if capabilities are available to the State.

Should Provider access to the above information be restricted or limited, the State shall immediately negotiate with the union to arrange an alternate method to provide access to the information.

E. The Union and DHS as well as other interested stakeholders shall work together in an ongoing way to identify ways to streamline the CCAP application and reimbursement process, including exploring mobile-based application and electronic formats that facilitate the transmission of documents and information necessary for the prompt processing of CCAP applications, CCAP enrollments, and CCAP Provider reimbursements, the ability to mail or electronically send to the Providers the vendor payroll, and the ability to automatically notify a Provider upon enrollment when a family’s application is incomplete.

Section 2. Accurate Payment

A. Providers shall receive accurate payment for services authorized and rendered. Disputes regarding payments and overpayments shall be grievable. Overpayment grievances shall be filed directly at the second step of the grievance procedure.

B. In the event a Provider is issued an overpayment and a determination is made that the provider must reimburse the State, the Union shall refund the Department any excess dues deductions withheld due to the overpayment.

Section 3. Deductions

a. Upon receipt by the State, as pay agent and in conformance with applicable State and Federal laws and regulations, of written authorization from the Provider, union dues and initiation fees shall be deducted from the Provider’s payments and remitted to Union.
The Union shall advise the State of any increases in dues or other approved deductions in writing at least forty-five (45) days prior to its effective date. The State shall continue to make such deductions, except where the authorization is revoked by the Provider as set forth below. When a Provider has authorized deductions for Union membership, the warrant stub will state “Union Dues” and the amount of the deduction.

b. Upon receipt by the State of written authorization (supplied by the Union) from the Providers, contributions to SEIU PowerPAC / SEIU COPE, or other SEIU-designated entities in an amount specified by the Provider on the authorization card shall be deducted by the State, as pay agent, from payments made to the Provider and remitted to the designated entity. The State, as pay agent, shall continue to make such deductions, except where the authorization is revoked by the Provider as set forth below.

c. All Providers covered by this Agreement who have signed Union dues or PowerPAC/SEIU COPE deduction authorizations prior to the effective date of this Agreement or who sign such cards thereafter shall only be allowed to cancel such dues and deductions within the prescribed procedures of the Comptroller. Notice of the revocation shall be submitted in writing to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Labor Relations. The State will promptly send copies to the Union.

d. The Union shall indemnify, defend and hold the State harmless against any claim, suit, or liability arising from any action taken by the State in complying with this Section of this Article.

ARTICLE IX – HEALTH INSURANCE

Section 1. Intent

The Union intends to provide access to comprehensive health insurance coverage to eligible Providers and the State intends to pay for such health coverage to the extent provided in this Article.

Section 2. Contribution and Administration

a. At least two (2) months prior to each calendar quarter (May 1, August 1, November 1, February 1), the Union shall report to the State how many individuals are enrolled in the SEIU Healthcare Illinois Child Care Health Fund to receive benefits for the upcoming quarter. Upon receipt of this report, the State shall contribute to the fund during the upcoming quarter (quarters commencing July 1, October 1, January 1, April 1) as set forth below.

For the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, the State will contribute at a rate of $422.74 per enrollee per month.
No later than January 1st of each calendar year, the Union will forward to the State an actuarial report setting forth the recommended contribution rate per enrollee per month for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1st through June 30th). Annual rate increases shall be determined via actuarial analysis agreed to by the parties but in no event shall exceed 9% annually. In addition, the State shall ensure compliance with the Affordable Care Act no later than July 1, 2014 irrespective of any limitations on annual rate increases.

Rates shall also be adjusted to factor such underage or overage reflecting the difference between the total annual contributions paid and the total annual cost of providing benefits during the previous annual period.

The Union shall discuss with the State any changes in plan design or eligibility criteria prior to implementation of such changes. The Union shall not make any changes in the plan design regarding family coverage for the term of the Agreement.

The Union shall comply with reasonable information requests, including financial or audit requests, by the State consistent with this Article. If the State desires any additional audits the State shall select the means and pay for the audit, if applicable.

The State supports increased eligible Provider participation in the Fund. The State will contribute the appropriate monthly rate for up to 4,000 enrollees for the period of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 and 5,000 enrollees commencing July 1, 2014.

Unresolved disputes as to the appropriate contribution rate shall be referred for final and binding resolution to a neutral actuary or arbitrator mutually selected by the parties, who shall set the contribution rate no later than three (3) months prior to the start of the upcoming fiscal year. The costs of such neutral shall be split by the parties. If the parties are unable to agree upon an arbitrator, they will utilize the services of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service to select an arbitrator familiar with trust fund matters, in accordance with its rules for labor or trust fund arbitrators.

b. The Union has the unilateral and exclusive right and any attached responsibility to retain any insurance underwriter(s) of its choice, to self-insure, or to self-fund any benefit plan, to determine an insurance carrier to provide any potential benefits to individuals covered by this Agreement, or to participate in any new or established benefit plan, except as modified in Section 2.a. above. Other than provided herein, the Union shall be solely responsible for payment and administration of such plan.

Section 3. Disclaimers

a. The terms and conditions of the Fund, including coverage and eligibility, are under the sole control of the Union, except as modified in section 2.a. above. The State will not be party to any disputes over benefit levels or claims for benefits made by participants in the Fund. Such disputes will be resolved solely by the Union, or the Fund Trustees, as appropriate.

b. Except as provided herein, this Article shall not be subject to the grievance or arbitration procedures provided for in this contract.
c. The State's sole obligation under this Article shall be as set forth in Section 2.a. above. The failure of any carrier to provide benefits under any insurance program shall not result in any liability to the State. Further, the State shall have no diminished liability or additional liability for its failure to make any payments to the Fund due to changes in Federal and/or State law.

**ARTICLE X - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

**Section 1. Definition**

A. A grievance shall mean a dispute regarding the meaning or implementation of the provisions of this Agreement brought by the Union or a Provider. Neither the Union nor the Provider can grieve issues outside the scope of this Agreement, including but not limited to selection or termination of Provider services by Parents, and/or any action taken by the Parent.

B. Grievances may be processed by the Union on behalf of itself, a Provider, or a group of Providers. The Provider is entitled to Union representation at each and every step of the grievance procedure and the Union shall have the right to have the grievant or grievants present at any step of the grievance procedure, if a meeting is held, and at arbitration. The resolution of a grievance filed on behalf of a group of Providers shall be made applicable to the appropriate Providers within that group.

C. Both the Union and the State will work to resolve problems as quickly as possible and at the lowest possible step of the grievance procedure.

**Section 2. Grievance Procedure**

Participation in the grievance procedure in any capacity shall be done solely on the Provider's own time. Grievances must be filed with and received by the State within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date the Union or Provider knew or should have known of the action or inaction that gave rise to the grievance.

Step 1: Bureau Chief of Child Care and Development
The grievance shall be reduced to writing and submitted to the Bureau Chief of Child Care and Development or his/her designee. The Bureau Chief or his/her designee shall have fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt of the grievance to respond.

Step 2: Department of Human Services, Bureau of Labor Relations.
If the grievance is not resolved at Step 1, the Union may submit the grievance within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Step 1 response, or date such response was due, to the DHS Bureau Chief of Labor Relations. The Bureau Chief or his/her designee shall have twenty-one (21) calendar days to respond to the grievance.
Step 3A: Department of Central Management Services, Division of Employee and Labor Relations

If the grievance is not resolved at Step 2, the Union may submit the grievance within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Step 2 response, or date such response was due, to the CMS Division of Employee and Labor Relations. CMS shall have twenty-one (21) calendar days to respond to the grievance. In the event the parties are unable to reach a resolution, the Union may request in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of the Step 3A response, or date such response was due that the grievance be submitted to an independent arbitrator.

Step 3B: Arbitration

The parties will mutually agree to choose from a mutually agreed panel of arbitrators. It shall be the duty of the arbitrator to hear and consider evidence submitted by the parties and to thereafter make written findings of fact. The decision and award of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties. The arbitrator shall have no authority to ignore, add, subtract or modify any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall limit his/her decision solely to the application and interpretation of the relevant provisions of this Agreement. Questions of arbitrability shall be decided by the arbitrator prior to the arbitrator addressing the merits of the grievance. The expenses and fees of the arbitrator shall be paid the losing party. In cases of split decisions the arbitrator shall determine what portion each party shall be billed for expenses and fees. The cost of the hearing rooms, if any, shall be split by the parties. The cost of verbatim records, if any, shall be paid by the requesting party. Each party shall bear the expenses of its own witnesses.

Section 3. Timely Payments of Special Funds and Training Funds

Grievances concerning untimely payments to the SEIU Child Care Health Fund or the SEIU METC Fund shall be filed at Step 3A and may be advanced to expedited arbitration under FMCS rules.

Section 4. Payment and Overpayment

Disputes regarding payments and overpayments shall be grievable. Overpayment grievances shall be filed directly at the second step.

ARTICLE XI – LABOR/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the purpose of maintaining communications between labor and management in order to cooperatively discuss matters of mutual concern, the agency head and/or his/her designee shall meet, as may be reasonably necessary, but no less than semi-annually, with representatives of the Union. The parties shall exchange agendas one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting.
ARTICLE XII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Income Verification

Upon the request of a Provider or any third party with the written authorization of the Provider, the State shall provide written verification of past payments to the Provider and the Provider's participation in the Child Care Assistance Program.

Section 2. No Strike/No Lockout

During the term of this Agreement, the Union, its members and representatives shall not engage in, authorize, or sanction or support any strike, slowdown or other stoppage of work; nor shall the State during the term of this Agreement engage in any lockout.

Section 3. Provider Files

A Provider and/or the Union shall have access to all documents concerning the Provider in the possession or control of the State, unless prohibited by law.

Section 4. Notification of Address

Providers shall notify the Child Care Assistance Program of any changes to their address of record. Providers using Debit Card shall also report address changes to the Debit Card vendor.

Section 5. Provider Notification

The State will directly notify Providers, as soon as possible, in writing of any development or change affecting payment for children in their care. The State shall provide reasonable advance notice to the Union of any policy change that impacts Providers. Updates on policy changes impacting Providers will be communicated on the DHS website and in notification to Providers from DHS with Providers' monthly certificates.

Section 6. Publication of the Agreement

The State shall have the Agreement available on the Department of Central Management Services' website and shall be linked to on the DHS Bureau Child Care and Development website.

Section 7. Providers' Rights

The State recognizes the rights of Providers to select the children to be placed in their care, to terminate the relationship with Parents, and to enter into private agreements with Parents that do not contradict the policies of the Child Care Assistance Program.
Section 8. Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

The State shall require Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, while providing services on behalf of the Child Care Assistance Program, to comply with the terms set forth in Article IV – Union Rights and this Article XII – General Provisions.

Section 9. Union Membership Cards

All Union membership cards, or copies thereof, submitted to the State shall be uniform in format and size and submitted monthly in alphabetical order.

Section 10. Training

All current Providers are strongly encouraged to take “What is CCAP” training in order to become familiar with CCAP, appreciate its mission and purpose, and better understand program guidelines and the expectations of parents and Providers. Newly enrolled Providers shall be strongly encouraged to take “What is CCAP” training within six (6) months of their enrollment/approval.

“What is CCAP” training shall be made available through each local CCR&R agency no less than three (3) times a year and will also be made available on-line as a self-study module. Providers may select which training venue to use. The State shall provide and pay for “What is CCAP” training but shall not pay for the cost of the Provider to attend the training. The State reserves the right to cancel such trainings when attendance levels are insufficient.

Section 11. Training Registry

All Providers required to receive training shall be required to be listed on the State central training registry. Providers shall not be charged for listing on the registry. The Union and the SEIU METC shall be granted access to the registry and its data.

Section 12. Funding Cessation

The State reserves the right to cease funding for substantiated allegations of fraud against the State. The State also reserves the right to cease funding if a Provider is placed on the Child Care Abuse and Neglect Registry, sex offender registry or fails any required criminal background checks or commits any action that jeopardizes CCAP’s federal funding.

Section 13. Adverse Determinations

The State shall provide notice to Providers within ten (10) business days of the adverse determination date, resulting in an increase in parent co-pays and/or loss of eligibility.
The parties shall by July 1, 2014 establish and implement a means to mitigate the risk to Providers of furnishing care without compensation due to eligibility redeterminations made by DHS or received by Providers after the close of the eligibility period.

Section 14. Privacy Rights of Providers

In recognition of the privacy interests of all persons covered under this Agreement, the State will not disclose any personal or wage information, or membership status, concerning persons covered by this Agreement to any members of the public or to nongovernmental organizations except to the extent required by law, the operations of State government and/or business relationship.

The State shall notify the Union as soon as practicable when it receives a request for information from members of the public or nongovernmental organizations via the Freedom of Information Act concerning persons covered under this Agreement.

Section 15. Retirement

The Union and the State shall establish a Joint Committee on Retirement Benefits to discuss the feasibility and explore possible options for establishing a retirement benefit for Providers covered under this Agreement. The parties agree that the options explored by the Joint Committee may be negotiated as part of a successor Agreement.

Section 16. Language Accessibility

The State shall publish all provider documents and mass mailings (sent either by U.S. mail or electronically) in English and Spanish. The State to the extent it currently provides shall continue to use interpreters, as requested, in communicating with child care providers. The final Collective Bargaining Agreement will be in English with a mutually-agreed upon Spanish translation. The State shall encourage CCR&Rs and INCCRRA to increase bilingual communications.

Section 17. Data Transparency and Evaluation

To facilitate a more current and comprehensive understanding of the status of the Child Care Assistance Program and its impact on workers and parents, the State shall provide the following reports:

a. A monthly budget report that includes allocation and spending through each appropriation line, and resulting balance; tiered payments on the ExceleRate and QRS, by month and year to date; children served on certificates and site-administered contracts, by month and year to date average; and total cost for certificate children and cost per child, by month and year to date average.
b. A quarterly report which provides an unduplicated breakdown of number of days paid by Type of Care, geographic group, quantity of care (full day, part day, school age), and age of child (0-14 months, 15-24 months, 25-30 months, 31-36 months, 37 months-4 years, 5 years, 6-12 years, Age 13 and over).

c. An annual report on Family Child Care Networks in site-administered CCAP that includes number of family child care providers participating, number of slots contracted, and total contract amount.

d. An annual report in an available format on provider training and development that includes number of providers attending each offered training, broken down by type of care and location; number of providers at each level of the QRS or ExceleRate system, broken down by type of care; number of providers who held any credential, broken down by type of care and type of credential, including level; number of providers who hold degrees, broken down by type of care, and the type of degree; number of providers who participated in Great Start, broken down by type of care and payment level; and number of providers receiving funds through Gateways to Opportunity Scholarship Program.

ARTICLE XIII: TRAINING

Section 1. Training Committee

To enhance the services delivered by Providers pursuant to the Child Care Assistance Program, the State and the Union will establish a joint Committee on Training, Education, and Quality Improvement. The State and the Union shall jointly determine the size and composition of the Committee; the Committee shall, at a minimum, include representatives of the State and the Union, and may also include additional experts and/or stakeholders as deemed necessary and mutually agreed upon.

The Committee shall meet to identify needs and issue recommendations to improve the quality of care that licensed and license-exempt Providers are able to offer. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to: improving communication, coordination, accessibility, and support around existing training, education, and quality improvement initiatives; developing new initiatives and/or making changes to existing initiatives, if such needs are identified; expanding access to and availability of existing and/or new initiatives; develop and modify existing training requirements Providers need to complete; and develop a curriculum for orientation trainings, including topics taught in What is CCAP? and Mandated Reporter Training. Funding for such training shall be in accordance with the Side Letter on Child Care Provider Training. Recommendations shall be issued no later than December 31, 2019.

Section 2. Training Fund and Access to Voluntary Quality Improvement and Professional Development
The State agrees to provide up to $2.5 million annually into the Helen Miller SEIU Member Education Training Center Fund ("METC Fund") for deposit in an appropriate account for the purpose of funding the recommendations of the Committee. This funding shall be in addition to, rather than replacing, existing State spending on training, education, and/or quality improvement initiatives. By mutual agreement of the parties, the maximum annual amount contributed as stated above may increase based upon the projected expenses of the training program. The meeting shall take place before April 30th for the subsequent fiscal year.

Prior to each Fiscal Year, the METC Fund shall provide a proposed budget to the Committee for approval. The Committee shall approve or disapprove of the METC Fund’s proposed budget normally within thirty (30) days of receipt of such budget. Unapproved expenditures will not be reimbursed by the State.

Section 3. Mandatory Training

1. Orientation
   a.) Licensed and Licensed-Exempt Non-Relative Family Child Care Providers shall be required to complete First Aid, CPR, and Mandated Reporter training within the first 90 days of service after being approved to receive CCAP payments at no cost to themselves and must maintain certification on an ongoing basis. Licensed-Exempt Family Child Care Providers will not be barred from applying to CCAP for not having completed First Aid, CPR, and Mandated Reporter Training. The State shall notify new Licensed and Licensed-Exempt Non-Relative Family Child Care Providers upon application in the CCAP and after their first 45 days of service, of the need to complete the required trainings. The State shall notify Providers who do not complete the training within the 90 day period that they are no longer eligible to receive CCAP payments until such trainings have been completed. License-Exempt Relative Family Child Care Providers will be strongly encouraged to complete First Aid, CPR, and Mandated Reporter and will have access to these trainings at no cost to themselves.

   b.) All new Licensed and License Exempt Non-Relative Family Child Care Providers shall be required to complete up to six (6) hours of Child Development Health and Safety Training during their first year enrolled as a Provider. The SEIU METC shall serve as a designated provider of the Health and Safety orientation. The State shall notify all new Providers upon application in the CCAP and after their first 45 days of service that they have 90 days from their first service day to complete the mandatory Health and Safety orientation. The State shall post information surrounding the mandatory trainings on the DHS website, CCAP application, and at CCR&R offices. The orientation curriculum conducted by SEIU will be determined by the Joint Committee on Training described above and subject to the State’s final approval. All enrolled Providers actively caring for a
CCAP child will be paid a $60 stipend to facilitate their attendance at the required orientation facilitated by the METC.

c.) The parties agree to follow Article IV Section 6 regarding union access during such orientation period.

2. Annual Training Requirements

a.) Licensed and Licensed-Exempt Non-Relative Family Child Care Providers shall complete up to six (6) hours of Child Development/Health and Safety Training on an annual basis. The SEIU METC shall serve as a designated provider of annual Child Development/Health and Safety Training. The curriculum for the annual training shall be developed by the Joint Committee on Training described above and subject to the State's final approval. All enrolled Providers actively caring for a CCAP child will be paid a $60 stipend to facilitate their attendance at the required annual training facilitated by the METC.

b.) Licensed-Exempt Relative Care Providers are exempt from Child Development/Health and Safety Training on an ongoing basis, but will be strongly encouraged to participate in trainings. The training committee will annually review participation for this Provider group. All enrolled Licensed-Exempt Relative Care Providers actively caring for a CCAP child will be paid a $60 stipend to incentivize and facilitate their attendance at the annual training facilitated by the METC.

c.) All Providers shall complete the required Child Development Health and Safety Training and obtain current First Aid, CPR and Mandated Reporter Certifications no later than June 30, 2020. Required trainings shall be completed by June 30th for each subsequent year of the Agreement, or such date determined by the Joint Committee on Training that allows for sufficient access to training for all Providers for whom it is a requirement.

d.) All Providers who fail to complete the mandatory training requirements by the deadline set forth by the Joint Committee on Training will receive a formal notice of their need to complete the training requirement and be granted an additional 60 day grace period to complete the requirement. Failure to complete the required training or maintain the required First Aid, CPR, and Mandated Reporter certifications by the deadline given in the final notice shall result in the Provider being suspended for funding, until the trainings have been completed and the Department has received verification.

3. Training Fund
ARTICLE XIV – TERM OF THE AGREEMENT

Section 1. Entire Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the complete and entire agreement between the parties, and concludes collective bargaining between the parties for its terms. The State and Union, for the duration of this Agreement, each waives the right and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain with respect to any subject matter referred to or covered in this Agreement. The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understanding and agreement arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. This section shall not constitute a waiver by the Union to negotiate the impact of changes to the Child Care Assistance Program affecting terms and conditions of employment under the State’s control.

Section 2. Severability

Should any part of this Agreement or any provisions contained herein be judicially determined to be contrary to law, such invalidation of such part or provision shall not invalidate the remaining portions hereof and they shall remain in full force and effect. In such event, upon the request of either party, the parties shall meet promptly and negotiate with respect to substitute provisions for those provisions rendered or declared unlawful, invalid or unenforceable.

Section 3. Term of the Agreement

This Agreement shall be effective July 1, 2019 and shall remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2023. Thereafter, it shall automatically renew itself from year to year unless at least one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to termination, either party serves notice in writing, of its intent to amend, add to, subtract from, or terminate this Agreement.

DATE: 2/19/20

DATE: 2/19/2020

For the State of Illinois

For the Union
a. The METC Training Fund shall serve as a designated provider of mandatory trainings. Funding for such training shall be in accordance with the Side Letter on Child Care Provider Training.

The Joint Committee on Training shall develop the curriculum for such Mandatory trainings in compliance with federal regulations, such curriculum is subject to final approval by the State.

b. The State agrees to provide up to $2.5 million annually into the Helen Miller SEIU Member Education Training Center Fund (“METC Fund”) for deposit in an appropriate account for the purpose of funding the recommendations of the Committee. This funding shall be in addition to, rather than replacing, existing State spending on training, education, and/or quality improvement initiatives.

c. Prior to each Fiscal Year, the METC fund shall provide a proposed budget to the Committee for approval. The Committee shall approve or disapprove of the METC Fund’s proposed budget normally within thirty (30) days of receipt of such budget. Unapproved expenditures will not be reimbursed by the State.

4. The State agrees to pay the Helen Miller SEIU Member Education Training Center Child Care Training Fund (“METC Fund”) for the purpose of providing the training to Providers described in this Section (3) under this article, up to $2.5 million for the period of October 1, 2019 through November 30, 2020, or the one year period after the Committee on Training issues its recommendations, whichever is later; and each year thereafter.

5. There shall be no charge for Providers to attend mandatory trainings. Mandatory trainings shall be offered in person or online. Trainings shall also be made accessible in languages other than English, including at least Spanish.
SIDE LETTER ON CHILD CARE PROVIDER TRAINING

SEIU Healthcare Illinois & Indiana ("SEIU"), the Illinois Department of Central Management Services ("CMS") and the Illinois Department of Human Services ("DHS") hereby enter into this Side Letter to the Collective Bargaining Agreement ("Side Letter"). CMS and DHS are also collectively referred to herein as "the State"; SEIU, CMS and DHS are collectively referred to herein as "Parties" or individually as a "Party".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties to this Side Letter agree and acknowledge that it is in the interests of Child Care Providers ("Providers"), the Child Care Assistance Program and the general public for Providers to have access to voluntary training designed to improve the quality of care Providers are able to provide; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to establish a Child Care Providers' Training Program ("Training Program").

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows.

AGREEMENT

I. Training Fund

   A. Pursuant to the Parties' Collective Bargaining Agreement, the State agrees to provide up to $2.5 million annually, into the Helen Miller SEIU Member Education Training Center Fund ("METC Fund") for deposit in an appropriate account ("METC Fund Account") for the purpose of funding the Training Program.

II. Terms of Contributions to the METC Fund Account; Quarterly Reports

   A. Contributions to the METC Fund Account shall be made upon the following terms:

      1. Contributions to the METC Fund Account shall be made on a quarterly basis and shall not exceed $2.5 million annually. DHS shall voucher the initial payment of one quarter of the annual maximum payment to the METC Fund Account as soon as the contract for these services is filed with the Illinois Office of the Comptroller. Subsequent payments shall be based on quarterly expenditure reports. Payments will equal the amount reported as spent in the previous quarter. However, no fourth quarter payment shall be made until a final expenditure report is received, unless the METC Fund provides an interim expenditure report demonstrating the initial advanced payment has been exhausted. All expenditure reports must be reviewed and approved by DHS before reimbursements are made.
2. Funding shall be used exclusively to provide training, education, mentorship and other professional development services to Providers. Such training and education may include, but is not limited to:

(a) payment or reimbursement to Providers who attend the training, however Providers shall not bill CCAP for said day; additionally, travel time, travel costs and union activity time for Providers are not reimbursable;

(b) designing, developing and purchasing the curriculum for such training, education, mentorship and other professional development services;

(c) facilitation of such training, education, mentorship and other professional development services which may include recruiting, training, managing, supervising and compensating educators and/or consultants, scheduling classes and instructors, locating and renting space, site visits and individual meetings enrolling active Providers, processing payments to Providers upon completion of training, and purchasing Committee-approved materials and equipment for training;

(d) informational mailings and phone outreach regarding such education and training; and

(e) administrative expenses in connection with offering the training program, including but not limited to accounting for and paying for program expenditures, including payroll for Training Program staff, and preparing and submitting reports on attendance and expenditures. Expenses in connection with such administration shall not exceed $250,000, unless mutually agreed.

3. All reasonable efforts shall be made to schedule education, mentorship and other professional development sessions in the most cost-effective manner, including utilizing venues which are both inexpensive and convenient to the Providers. All reasonable efforts shall be made to offer training and education sessions in classroom settings to include the greatest number of Providers in the widest geographic range and in venues which may be utilized at no charge where possible. Such training and education sessions shall be augmented by utilizing video conferencing equipment and/or webinar to include the greatest number of Providers regardless of geographic location. Training and education sessions may be recorded or videotaped for marketing and archival purposes. Recorded sessions are not intended to supplant in-person training/education sessions. In no event shall food and beverage be provided free of charge at such training and education sessions.
4. Prior to each Fiscal Year, the METC Fund shall provide a proposed budget to the Committee for approval prior to all scheduled trainings/educational presentations or other professional development services. The Committee shall approve or disapprove of the METC Fund’s proposed budget normally within thirty (30) days of receipt of such budget. Unapproved expenditures will not be reimbursed by the State.

5. Prior to each Fiscal Year, the METC Fund shall submit a proposed class schedule with number of classes or other professional services to be offered or conducted, times, locations, and number of slots available to the Committee for approval prior to all scheduled training/education sessions. The Committee shall approve or disapprove of the METC Fund’s proposed schedule within thirty (30) days of receipt of such schedule.

6. The State reserves the right to reject any proposals of the Committee, including for trainers and educators, venue, and training materials. However, the State’s approval will not be unreasonably withheld.

7. No later than August 15 of each Fiscal Year, the METC Fund shall provide to the Committee and to the State an accounting of all expenditures from the METC Fund Account. Any remaining unspent funds shall be returned to the State within thirty (30) days thereafter.

B. The METC Fund shall issue quarterly reports upon the following terms:

1. The quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Committee and to DHS’ Child Care Assistance Program prior to the next scheduled disbursement of funds; in no event shall such quarterly reports be submitted more than thirty (30) days after the end of the previous quarter.

2. The quarterly reports shall include, but not be limited to:

   (a) a detailed cost report itemized by type of expenditure associated with the Training Program including payments to Providers, operations and administration. Detailed back-up documentation to support all expenditures shall be made available to the State upon request;

   (b) the names, Social Security numbers and other necessary information regarding the Providers participating in each training/education session; and

   (c) the actual dates of each training/education session, the location of each such training/education session, and the start and end times of each such training/education session.

III. Participation in Training
All active Providers are eligible to participate in the Training Program. The Committee may implement reasonable limits on participation.

IV. Termination

This agreement shall expire on June 30, 2023, except that the State shall fulfill all of its duties and obligations under this agreement, including those that may not be fully completed until after the expiration date. Thereafter, it shall automatically renew itself from year to year unless at least one hundred and twenty (120) days notice prior to termination, either party serves notice, in writing, of its intent to amend, add to, subtract from or terminate this Agreement.

DATE: 2/19/20

For the State of Illinois

DATE: 2/19/2020

For the Union
Side Letter on Provider Monitoring and Attendance Records

This Side Letter Agreement is made and entered into by and between the State of Illinois, Departments of Central Management Services and Human Services (the "State") and the Service Employees International Union, Healthcare, Illinois & Indiana and its successor ("SEIU HCII" or the "Union"). The State and SEIU HCII are collectively referred to as the Parties.

Monitoring

a.) Annual Health and Safety monitoring visits shall occur for all Licensed-Exempt Providers, except that licensed exempt "relative care" providers are exempt from monitoring visits.

b.) The monitoring visit will be treated as a resource and check in visit, where the State representative will supply the provider with materials or documents outlining child care resources available in their area such as trainings, information regarding the Child and Adult Care Food Program, age appropriate toys and books, health and safety equipment such as a first aid kit and fire extinguisher, carbon monoxide detector, safety outlet covers, and any other resource deemed necessary that is beneficial to the Providers or the children.

c.) Monitoring visits will be scheduled with providers in advance, on a mutually agreed date and time, if possible.

d.) Through monitoring visits, the State will make reasonable efforts to assist Providers to achieve the Health and Safety standards of the Program.

Attendance Records

a.) All Providers are responsible for maintaining records of daily attendance, such as but not limited to sign-in sheets which the Department of Human Services may request to review at any point within a five (5) year period. Such records must be maintained in order for the Department to have the ability to verify that care was provided for the days in which the Department was billed. Providers will be informed of their responsibility to maintain such attendance records during "What is CCAP" training and other trainings required by the State in connection with the Child Care Assistance Program.
b.) Failure of a Child Care Provider to keep and maintain an attendance log shall not be the sole reason for a finding of fraud.

DATE: 2/19/20

For the State of Illinois

DATE: 2/19/20

For the Union
Side Letter on The Child and Adult Care Food Program

The parties shall meet and discuss expansion of utilization of the Child and Adult Care Food Program in order to reach underserved populations.

DATE: 2/19/20

For the State of Illinois

DATE: 2/19/20

For the Union
Side Letter on Site-Administered Family Child Care Networks

Providers' child care services rendered through Site-Administered Family Child Care Networks shall be covered by and subject to Articles IV Sec. 5 (Lists) and 10 (Fair Share), Article VII (Rates) and Article IX (Health Insurance) of this Agreement. The Parties shall promptly meet to determine implementation of this provision, which implementation shall be completed no later than July 1, 2014.

DATE: 2/19/20

For the State of Illinois

DATE: 2/19/2020

For the Union
This Side Letter Agreement is made and entered into by and between the State of Illinois, Departments of Central Management Service and Human Services (the “State”) and the Service Employees International Union, Healthcare Illinois & Indiana and its successor (“SEIU HCII” or the “Union”). The State and SEIU HCII are collectively referred to as the Parties. This Side Letter Agreement shall be incorporated into and become a part of the current labor contract between the parties covering Providers in the Department of Human Services, Child Care Assistance Program, which expires on June 30, 2023 (the “CBA”). The Parties agree to the following.

In the event that payroll deductions for Union dues, initiation fees, PowerPAC, COPE, or other SEIU designated entities, as provided in Article VIII, Section 3, of the parties’ CBA, are no longer permitted by State or Federal law, the parties shall meet promptly within 30 days and negotiate with respect to substitute provisions for such payroll deductions. Such substitute provisions may include, but not be limited to, the Union providing to the State authorizations by Providers for the State to release to the Union’s Designated Secure Payment Processor (“DSPP”) the Provider’s financial account information, such as bank account or debit card account information, on file with the State (collectively, “Financial Information”), for the purpose of processing Union dues, initiation fees, or Power PAC or COPE contributions via direct electronic funds transfers. The State agrees to honor such authorizations for the purpose of such release and agrees it will take any and all steps necessary to implement the authorizations. Within thirty days of the State’s receipt of such authorization from the Union or as soon thereafter as is practicable, the State will provide to the Union’s DSPP, by electronic transmission, the following Information: the Provider’s name, account number and routing number, birth date, last four digits of Social Security number, FEIN, home address, home phone number, and cell phone number that are in the State’s possession (collectively, the “Released Information”). This transmission shall occur within thirty days of the State’s receipt of such authorizations from the Union or as soon thereafter as is practicable. The State agrees to accept and honor such authorizations in electronic form, such as internet-based or telephonic authorization, consistent with the parties’ practice for payroll deduction authorizations and the letter agreement regarding Electronic Authorizations for Payment Deductions, dated August 1, 2014. All authorizations shall inform the Provider that such person is authorizing the State to release to the Union and any DSPP the list of Financial Information and Released Information referenced above (collectively, “Information”).

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the State and the Union shall comply with the Personal Information Protection Act, 815 ILCS 530/1 et seq., and the Identity Protection Act, 5 ILCS 179/1 et seq., in connection with any Information that has been transmitted or released, the Union shall implement reasonable security measures to protect such Information from unauthorized access, acquisition, destruction, use, modification, or disclosure (collectively the “Protected Events”), any DSPP to whom such Information is released or transmitted shall warrant compliance with such statutes and measures as a precondition of such release or transmission, and the Union shall
indemnify the State for any liability arising from the release or transmission of such
Information, the occurrence of any of the Protected Events, or the failure to comply with
any other legal obligations concerning the Information.

DATE: 2/19/20

For the State of Illinois

DATE: 2/19/20

For the Union