
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AUTOMATED TIME AND ATTENDANCE SYSTEM
WILL IMPROVE ACCURACY, SPEED
OF NEW YORK STATE'S CHILD CARE PAYMENTS**

Subsidized child care payments in New York State will be quicker and more accurate, thanks to a state-of-the-art automated system announced today by Commissioner Gladys Carrión, Esq., of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS).

“The new automated system will help assure that child care providers are paid in the timely manner they need and deserve, so that the state’s working families have steady, reliable child care,” Commissioner Carrión said. “It is an example of New York State’s commitment to technology and automation to save time and resources and improve efficiency.”

Through a competitive bid process, Controltec Inc. was awarded the \$4.8 million contract to develop and deploy a web-based Child Care Time and Attendance System in all social services districts outside of New York City, to be operational by July 31, 2011.

The child care subsidy program in New York State is a state-supervised program that is administered locally by the 58 social services districts. The new system will be used to verify eligibility, track time and attendance, and calculate and authorize child care payments. Parents and other caretakers will be able to check their child in and out of a child care program using the child care provider’s computer that will be connected to the new system through a web-based interface over the Internet.

The new system will serve up to 8,500 regulated and 18,000 enrolled legally exempt child care providers in local social services districts outside of New York City. These providers will supply subsidized care to up to 100,000 children.

Benefits of the statewide automated system include the following:

- improving timeliness and accuracy of payments to child care providers
- decreasing the burden of manual processes on local social services districts and child care providers
- improving recruitment and retention of providers
- increasing fiscal accountability, including improving fraud prevention efforts

“After working with New York counties streamlining their child care related processes for over 10 years, Controltec is proud and honored to have the opportunity to work with the state on deploying a statewide solution,” said Norbert Haupt, chief executive officer of Controltec.

The company specializes in software products for the subsidized child care industry. Its products KinderTrack® and KinderConnect™ comprise a suite of solutions for child care subsidy agencies at the county and state level to administer early education and child care programs. The New York Child Care Time and Attendance System will be based on these products.

To provide ongoing support, training and a call center for county staff, child care providers and parents, Controltec has plans to open an office in centrally located Syracuse.

For information on child care in New York State, parents and other caregivers are urged to visit the OCFS website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us or call 1-800-345-KIDS (5437).

In general, families are eligible for financial assistance for child care if they meet the state's low-income guidelines and need child care to work, look for work, or attend employment training. County departments of social services (in New York City, the Human Resources Administration and Agency for Child Development) determine family eligibility based on income, reasons for needing child care, and the child's age and individual needs.

Parents and other caregivers interested in finding out if they are eligible for a child care subsidy, or wishing to apply for a subsidy for their child, should contact their local department of social services. For general information about child care subsidies, they may contact their local child care resource and referral agency, listed on the OCFS website.

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