



Office of the State Auditor

Local Government Cooperation Waiver Application

1. Applicant Name(s). *All entities listed must be local units of government. If request is on behalf of a nonprofit organization, include name of nonprofit organization.*

Ramsey County
St. Paul Public Schools

2. Application Contact Person. *The contact person should be able to respond to questions regarding this application.*

Name: Shannon Kennedy Phone: 651-266-4608
 Title: Human Services Manager Fax: 651-266-4604
 Address: 160 E. Kellogg Blvd.
 Agency: Ramsey County Community Human Services Room 3200
 St. Paul, MN 55101
 E-mail: Shannon.Kennedy@co.ramsey.mn.us

3. Service/Program. *Identify the specific service or program for which you are requesting a waiver.*

Data Privacy Regulations between the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Program and Public Education.

4. Rule/Law. *Specifically identify the rule(s) or procedural law(s) governing the delivery of services from which you are requesting a waiver as well as any related rule(s) or law(s) (for example: M.R. 9525.0125, subp. 1 or M.S. 279.03, subd. 1).*

Basic Sliding Fee - MN Statutes 13.319 and 13.02
Education Records – MN Statute 13.22

5. Is the request for a waiver from a statutory notice requirement?

Yes No

If yes, application need not be submitted, because the State Auditor's may not grant the application pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.80, subd. 3.

6. School Districts. Does the Commissioner of Education have authority to grant variance under section 122A.163.

_____ Yes No

If yes, the State Auditor cannot grant a waiver or variance pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.80.

7. Do you know of any state statute, federal law, or state or federal constitutional doctrine that could be interpreted to inhibit the waiver of the rule or law requested?

_____ Yes (CITE AND DISCUSS AS APPROPRIATE) _____ No

Not sure if these would be interpreted to inhibit this wavier request. However, they are laws and rules that apply to educational services and listed them accordingly.

Education Records – 20 USC 1232G

34 CFR Part 99

Free and Reduced Price Lunch – 42 USC 1758 (b)(6)(A)

8. Is there a Minnesota statute or a federal law, other than Minn. Stat. §§ 6.80, 14.055 and 14.056 that currently allows a waiver from the rule or law?

_____ Yes No

If yes, please cite the applicable rule or law and explain why a waiver or exemption is then needed from the State Auditor.

9. Does the requested waiver or exemption only change the procedural requirements imposed on the applicant?

_____ Yes No

The change would allow county staff to more quickly verify eligibility for child care subsidies by using previously determined eligibility for reduced cost or free school lunches. The income eligibilities are comparable, but not exactly the same.

The change would also reduce the requirement of co-payments from high school students with children in child care.

If yes, please explain. It is not sufficient merely to affirm that granting the waiver will only change the procedural requirements of the applicant. You are required to describe; (1) who must deliver a service; (2) where the service must be delivered; (3) to whom and in what form reports regarding the service must be made; and (4) how long or how often the service must be made available to a given recipient. In addition, you must describe the nature of the law or rule and show that its waiver will not have any substantive impacts on the applicant's responsibilities.

10. Previous Requests. *If request is for exemption from an administrative rule, has the petitioner requested and been denied an exemption from the appropriate agency per Minn. Stat. §§ 14.055 and 143056?*

_____ Yes, when: _____ No

If yes, please attach the agency's findings.

If no, you must request an exemption from the appropriate agency and be denied before submitting this application.

11. In the past three years, has the applicant or any related party been involved in any litigation, mediation, arbitration, or review by an agency or tribunal involving the applicable rule or law for which a waiver is requested?

_____ Yes No

If yes, identify the parties and all persons having information about the action. Also, include all relevant documentation from the action.

12. Overseeing Agency. *List any state or metropolitan agencies having jurisdiction over the rule or law from which the waiver or exemption is sought.*

Minnesota Department of Human Services
Minnesota Department of Education

13. For waivers of administrative rules, indicate the length of time for which you would like the waiver to be effective.

Waiver of administrative rules can be granted for no less than two years and no more than four year, subject to renewal if both parties agree. Exemptions from enforcement of procedural laws automatically expire ten days after the adjournment of the next regular legislative session in the next calendar year, unless extended by the legislature.

_____ 2 _____ Years

14. Affected Parties. *List the name, address, and telephone number of any person, business, or other government unit you know would be adversely affected by the grant of this petition. In addition, include any materials you may have relating to their position on this issue.*

5-10 families that would remain on the Basic Sliding Fee waiting list as the high school students would remain eligible for the subsidy and use part of the capped allocation.

15. Exclusive Representatives. You must provide a copy of this application to the exclusive representative (union) certified under M.S. 179A.12 to represent employees who provide the service or program affected by your request.

Are the affected employees represented by an exclusive representative? Yes: No:

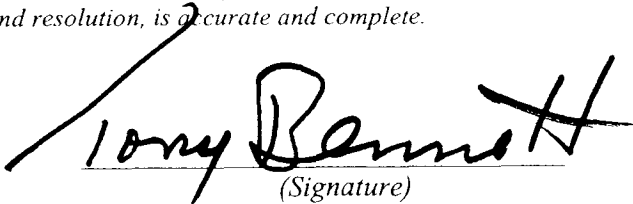
List all applicable exclusive representatives and indicate the date on which you sent the copy:

Joyce Carlson, Business Representative
AFSCME Minnesota Council 5
300 Hardman Ave. South
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Sent on February 17, 2006

Exclusive representatives: You may submit written comments on this application, including objections, to the State Auditor within 60 days of receipt of the application.

This application is submitted to the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. §6.80. The local government unit(s) requesting the waiver agrees (agree) to abide by the requirements of Minnesota law and the operating procedures of the Office of the State Auditor. To the best of my (our) knowledge the information contained in this application, including the attached narrative and resolution, is accurate and complete.


(Signature)

CHAIR Board of County Commissioners
(Title) 2006-086

2/28/06
(Date)


(Signature)

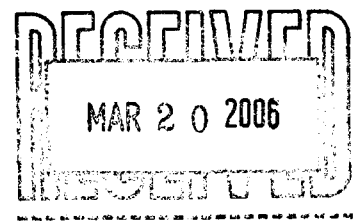
Chief Clerk, Ramsey County Board
(Title)

2/28/06
(Date)

APPROVED AS TO FORM


ASSISTANT RAMSEY COUNTY ATTORNEY

DATE: 2/14/06



Reduction in Procedural Steps - Child Care Pilot Project

One of the most important outcomes for teen mothers is that they finish high school and obtain their degree. This will improve their job opportunities and ability to care for their child.

St. Paul Public Schools has developed three child care centers at high schools as part of the effort to support teen mothers to finish high school. The child care centers provide high quality care and direct home to school transportation for both student and child. Staff in the child care centers help teen parents make important decisions about their education as well as provide them with important role modeling and guidance for their development as parents. The child care program's focus on early literacy development prepares the children of adolescent parents for their own later success in school.

Most of the teen mothers using those centers also qualify for child care subsidies, either through the Minnesota Family Investment Program child care program or the Basic Sliding Fee child care program. These mothers, because of their income, also qualify for free or reduced school lunches.

The level of income to qualify for subsidized child care and free or reduced lunch are similar, but not exactly the same. This, then leads to two separate application procedures to gain access to both programs. Due to the stress on young mothers, there have been instances in which students have dropped out of school and removed their child from one of the centers, being either unable or unwilling to go through another application procedure.

To streamline this funding process, with the focus on school attendance and success, the St. Paul Schools and Ramsey County Human Services are proposing to use the eligibility for free and reduced lunch program as the eligibility level for the subsidized child care program.

Subsidized child care, the basic sliding fee portion is a capped allocation. Teen mothers are given priority in the process of determining who receives the available subsidies. This streamlining of eligibility procedures would support the state set priorities for the child care subsidy program.

20-30 teen mothers would benefit from this effort annually.

THIS AGREEMENT (“**Agreement**”) is made and entered into as of _____ (the “**Effective Date**”) by and between the Minnesota State Auditor’s Office (referred to as “the Auditor’s Office”) and Ramsey County (referred to as the “County”). The County and the Auditor’s Office are referred to collectively in this Agreement as the “**Parties**” and individually, without differentiation, each as a “**Party.**”

I. Agreement

Upon the approval by the Auditor’s Office of the procedural law waiver application of the County, the County agrees to the following:

- A. To keep record of each individual who is approved for subsidized child care support based on eligibility for free and reduced lunch.
- B. To develop a summary report that includes the number of individuals who were approved for subsidized child care and their progress toward high school graduation.

II. Outcomes

Upon approval of the waiver application by the Auditor, the County commits to the following outcomes:

- A. Improved school attendance on the part of the students with children.
- B. Progress toward high school graduation with their current classmates.
- C. Graduation rates at or higher than the overall percentage of students with children.
- D. Children are carried for in a safe and licensed child care setting.

III. Barriers of Current Law

As part of this agreement, Ramsey County affirms the desired outcomes can not be met under the current laws for the following reasons:

- A. The current requirement for a separate income eligibility standards for subsidized child care leads some teen mothers to not follow through on application and verification, then when unable to afford the on-site child care, drop out of school entirely.

IV. Outcome Measurement

As part of this agreement, Ramsey County agrees to the following to allow the State Auditor to measure the outcomes contained in this agreement:

- A. Submit a copy of the summary report (I.B) to the State Auditors office at the conclusion of the 2006-2007 school year.

V. Duration of the Agreement

Pursuant to M.S. 6.80, this agreement is for the period beginning _____, 2006 and ending ten days following the adjournment of the 2007 regular legislative session.


VI. Approval

For State Auditor's Office


For Ramsey County

Minnesota State Auditor

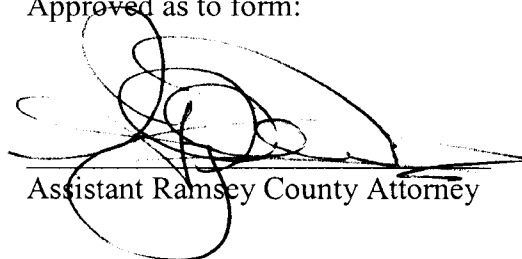

Chair, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners


Chief Clerk, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners (2006-086)

Recommended by:


Director, Community Human Services

Approved as to form:


Assistant Ramsey County Attorney

Resolution

Board of

Ramsey County Commissioners

Presented By Commissioner Reinhardt Date February 28, 2006 No. 2006-086
Attention: Budgeting and Accounting
Monty Martin, CHS

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department has developed four proposals for mandate reform; and

WHEREAS, The proposals include: Reduction of Procedural Steps and Improve Coordination of Services for Teen Mothers attending St. Paul Public Schools; an Alternative Payment Model for Day Training and Habilitation Programs; Reduction in Procedural Steps for Community Providers to be certified to provide Children's Mental Health Services; and to Eliminate the Biennial Revision or Redraft of the Children's and Community Services Plan; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the submission to the State Auditor of the Mandates Reform proposals: to Reduce Procedural Steps and Improve Coordination of Services for Teen Mothers attending St. Paul Public Schools; an Alternative Payment Model for Day Training and Habilitation Programs; Reduction in Procedural Steps for Community Providers to be certified to provide Children's Mental Health Services; and to Eliminate the Biennial Revision or Redraft of the Children's and Community Services Plan; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the proposals.

RAMSEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Tony Bennett	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Toni Carter	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Jim McDonough	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Rafael Ortega	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Jan Parker	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Victoria Reinhardt	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Janice Rettman	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Tony Bennett, Chair

By


Bonnie C. Jackelen
Chief Clerk - County Board