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To: Child Welfare Advisory Council

From: Amy Farrington, Director of Certification

Date: September 9, 2022

Re: Documenting Formal Education Requirements for Applicants Hired under the  
*Enhancing the Workforce in Child and Family Well-Being Program*, effective date:  
July 1, 2022.

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The FCB Certified Child Welfare Protective Investigator (CWPI) certification standards require applicants to hold a minimum of a Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college. Effective July 1, 2022, the Florida Department of Children and Families implemented the *Enhancing the Workforce in Child and Family Well-Being Program*, which approves specific applicants who do not meet the CWPI formal education requirement for employment.

Prior to July 1, 2022, the requirement for Protective Investigator candidates to hold a bachelor's degree as a condition of employment were agency imposed. As well, current FCB policy approves all employment waivers granted by the Department. As such, CWPI applicants hired under this program are not required to hold specific approval from the Department for hire.

The FCB has updated and posted a new certification application form (Formal Education Verification) to address these candidates. It is the responsibility of the employer/supervisor to attest to the level of education necessary for certification, just as the employer/supervisor previously had to attest to the candidate having the Bachelor's level education.