NEW YORK STATE | Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance | Office of Children and Family Services

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

BARBARA C. GUINN
Commissioner

DaMIA HARRIS-MADDEN
Commissioner

Memorandum

To: Staff Development Coordinators
Welfare Fraud Directors
Directors of Services
Day Care Supervisors

From: Kevin Sullivan, Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)
Carolyn Parsakian, Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

Subject: New York Welfare Fraud Investigators Association 41st Annual Training Seminar – New York State Registration Scholarships

Date: February 25, 2026

A letter was recently sent by OTDA Commissioner Barbara Guinn and OCFS Commissioner Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden to your Commissioner regarding the NYWFIA Annual Training Seminar to be held June 1-3, 2026 at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel- Binghamton, New York. The letter indicated that OTDA and OCFS will offer registration scholarships for welfare fraud staff and local district day care staff to attend this 41st annual event.

OTDA is offering a scholarship to each of the 58 districts across the State and, and for the tenth year, is offering an additional 31 scholarships to counties within 200 miles. OCFS is offering 58 scholarships for local district child care and fraud staff and will also offer an additional 31 scholarships to counties within 200 miles. This allows us to extend our comprehensive team approach to combating welfare fraud by including our partners who administer day care programs. These 178 registration scholarships will be awarded through criteria established by OTDA and OCFS and will cover the full seminar registration fee for each attendee designated.

At this year's seminar, OTDA and OCFS staff will conduct discussions to allow investigators to talk directly with project managers on a wide range of program integrity initiatives. Additionally, OTDA will host an interactive discussion on current welfare fraud issues. Lastly, based on local district feedback, OTDA will again host a Fraud Director meeting as an open forum to discuss cross-district issues and other relevant fraud initiatives.

To register your designated scholarship recipients or should your agency require any additional information about these scholarships, please have the ***Staff Development Coordinator*** contact the respective State liaison listed below. We have also attached the NYWFIA announcement letter and tentative agenda. The Seminar registration form and hotel information are located on the NYWFIA website at www.nywfia.org.

For OTDA scholarship registration, please contact Kevin Sullivan at Kevin.Sullivan@otda.ny.gov (518) 473-2582. For OCFS scholarship registration, please contact Carolyn Parsakian at Carolyn.Parsakian@ocfs.ny.gov or (518) 474-2205.

Attachments