



## Department of Health

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Commissioner

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Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

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Dear Pediatric Provider:

Public Health Law § 2509-c requires that every licensed pediatric health care provider supply the parent, guardian, custodian, or other authorized individual of their pediatric patient with educational materials about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) defines ACEs as:

“stressful or traumatic experiences experienced during childhood, which are strongly related to the development and prevalence of a wide range of health problems throughout a person's lifetime, including, but not limited to physical or sexual abuse; domestic violence; parental mental illness; substance abuse; and incarceration.”

OCFS, in consultation with not-for-profit entities that support individuals identified with ACEs and the NYS Department of Health, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the Office of Mental Health, and the Office of Addiction Services and Supports, has developed a brochure for pediatric providers to meet the requirements of the new law.

The *ACES: Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences* brochure addresses the importance of protective factors and availability of services for children at risk of or experiencing ACEs. The brochure is available for download and may be provided electronically. Also, versions in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Italian, Haitian Creole, Korean, Polish, Russian, Chinese Traditional, Bengali, Urdu, and Yiddish may be downloaded and printed from <https://ocfs.ny.gov/publications/index.php?find=Pub.+5222>. Limited printed English copies may be requested by emailing [OCFS.sm.ACEsBrochureOrders@OCFS.NY.GOV](mailto:OCFS.sm.ACEsBrochureOrders@OCFS.NY.GOV).

For more information about ACEs, please visit <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/cwcs/aces.php>.

Sincerely,

James V. McDonald, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner