



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

WILLIAM WALDMAN
Commissioner

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 98-4

DATE: February 4, 1998

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid
Programs Supervisors

SUBJECT: Implementation of the NJ KidCare Program

This is a follow-up to Medicaid Communication 98-1, dated January 16, 1998, which advised you of the implementation of the New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Program Expansion phase of the NJ KidCare program and requested that you begin to evaluate children for eligibility under the expansion, effective February 1, 1998.

To reiterate, under the Medicaid expansion criteria, the eligibility requirement has increased from 100 to 133% of the federal poverty level for children age 6 and older and also extended the age limits for children up to and including age 18. You were advised initially that these children must be uninsured for a minimum of twelve months prior to application. Due to a recent amendment to the State Plan, the twelve-month restriction has been dropped. However, children with comprehensive health care coverage at the time of application will not qualify for the Medicaid expansion. Children born after September 30, 1983, who would have qualified for Medicaid prior to the expansion, i.e., with family income at or below 100% of the federal poverty level, are not subject to the uninsured provision.

In conjunction with our earlier request, the Division has produced a series of management reports which will facilitate a review of cases to determine ongoing eligibility under existing and new criteria. These reports identify active AFDC-related New Jersey Care cases under your county's supervision who are about to age out or have already aged out and may be at risk of losing Medicaid.

In an effort to maximize access to continuing health care coverage for these children, we are asking that you conduct a review or full redetermination, if required, for each case for possible continuation in the New Jersey Care program, including the Medicaid expansion. A description of the enclosed reports and corresponding instructions for their use follows.

Report #1) Listing of Active New Jersey Care Recipients under Program Status Codes 480/481; children about to reach age 6 and subject to a change in program status code;

Report #2) Listing of Active New Jersey Care Recipients under Program Status Codes 480/481; children over age 6 and in a program status code inappropriate for their age.

If the eligibility determination can be made based upon the review of information contained in the current record, you are to establish eligibility ex parte and proceed with systems updates to designate the appropriate code for continuation in New Jersey Care, including Medicaid expansion. If a determination cannot be made based upon the information at hand, we ask that you outreach the parent or responsible individual to obtain the necessary information in order to complete the eligibility determination.

During your review process, you may determine that the child is not eligible for New Jersey Care, including Medicaid expansion, due to excess income. In these situations, we ask that you hold those cases for further eligibility determination under NJ KidCare Plans B and C. Instructions regarding the referral process for these cases will be forthcoming.

Within the next month, we will issue two additional management reports which list children who are aging out or aged out of Program Status Code 482 and will seek your assistance in reviewing the eligibility of these cases as well. Additionally, over the course of the next two weeks, the Division will be sending outreach letters directly to families with children who have been terminated from the New Jersey Care...Special Medicaid Program under program status codes 480/481, 482 and 483, advising them of the NJ KidCare program expansion.

Enclosed for your reference is the Medicaid gross income standards for families with children, including NJ KidCare. We recognize your ongoing contributions in this effort and thank you for helping us to reach uninsured children. If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,


Karen I. Squarrell
Acting Director

KIS:s

Attachments

c: Len Fishman, Commissioner
Susan C. Reinhard, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services

Karen Highsmith, Director
Division of Family Development

Michele Guhl, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Youth and Family Services

1997 Gross Income Standards for Families with Children (Including NJ KidCare)

Family Size	AFDC (July 16, 1996)		Medically Needy		A Up to 133% of the Poverty Level		B Up to 150% of the Poverty Level		Pregnant Women and Children Under the Age of 1		C Up to 200% of the Poverty Level	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
1	\$2,220	\$185	\$4,404	\$367	\$10,494	\$875	\$11,835	\$987	\$14,597	\$1,217	\$15,780	\$1,315
2	4,428	369	5,208	434	14,112	1,176	15,915	1,327	19,629	1,636	21,220	1,769
3	5,316	443	6,804	567	17,729	1,478	19,995	1,667	24,661	2,056	26,660	2,222
4	6,084	507	7,908	659	21,347	1,779	24,075	2,007	29,693	2,475	32,100	2,675
5	6,804	567	8,904	742	24,965	2,081	28,155	2,347	34,725	2,894	37,540	3,129
6	7,488	624	9,900	825	28,582	2,382	32,235	2,687	39,757	3,314	42,980	3,582