

The policy change which reduces the expanded eligibility level for children age 6 through age 18 to 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) is applied as follows:

New Applicants:

Children age 6 through age 18 who apply on or after April 1, 2005 are determined eligible using 100% of the FPL. However, if the child is eligible for any period prior to April 1, 2005, (including any period of retroactive coverage), the higher income standard must be used and if eligible, the child will remain eligible for 12 months following the Authorization From Date. Such children are not required to be transitioned to the Child Health Plus B program until the end of the 12-month period.

Undercare Cases:

At renewal, the new closing reason codes for transitioning children to the Child Health Plus B program (C25 Upstate and E42/E43 in NYC) are used only in the following circumstances:

- The child is age 6 through age 18 and has been in receipt of Child Health Plus A benefits under the expanded eligibility category due to having net income between 100% and 133% of the FPL (Categorical Code 60).
- The child is renewing his/her Child Health Plus A coverage for a renewal date beginning April 1, 2005 or later. Exception: children renewing for April 1, 2005 or later, whose renewals were completed prior to the March 21, 2005 migration of the new income level to the Medicaid Budget Logic are not required to be transitioned to the Child Health Plus B program until their next annual renewal in 2006.

Examples:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their two children ages 6 and 8, apply for health insurance on February 28, 2005. The district is making the determination on March 24, 2005. The family's net income is above 100% of the federal poverty level, but below 133% of the FPL. Since the authorization From Date is before April 1, 2005, both children are eligible and are authorized for a full year of Child Health Plus A coverage. When the family renews in 2006, if net income remains between 100% and 133% of the FPL, the children will be transitioned to Child Health Plus B using the new closing code.
2. Mr. and Mrs. Evans and their children, 9 year old Mark and 11 year old Josh, are receiving Medicaid/Child Health Plus under the **Low Income Families** category. They are renewing eligibility for May 1, 2005. Mr. Evans recently returned to work and the family's income is now above 100% of the FPL. Josh and Mark are not eligible for the 90-day extension, because they are not children who were previously eligible in the expanded eligibility group due to income between 100% and 133% of the FPL. They are closed due to excess income and referred to

Child Health Plus B under existing procedures. Mr. and Mrs. Evans are evaluated for eligibility under Family Health Plus.

3. Ms. Waters is enrolled in Family Health Plus and 7 year old Sara is receiving Child Health Plus A with net income below 100% of the FPL. When Ms. Evans sends in her renewal in July 2005, her net income has gone up above 100% of the FPL. Sara is not eligible for the 90-day extension, because she is not a child who was previously eligible in the expanded eligibility category with income between 100% and 133% of the FPL. She is closed due to excess income and referred to Child Health Plus B under existing procedures. Ms. Waters is evaluated for continued eligibility under Family Health Plus.
4. Michael, 16 years old, resides with his mother in Albany County. His mother is disabled and enrolled in Medicare, and Michael receives Child Health Plus A, with net income between 100% and 133% of the FPL. At the time of his October 1, 2005 renewal, their income has not changed but, due to the change in eligibility level, Michael is no longer eligible for Child Health Plus A. He is closed using the new closing code, (C25 Upstate and E42 in NYC), which provides a 90-day extension through December, 2005, in order to ensure his transition to Child Health Plus B.
5. Mr. and Mrs. Williams and 13 year old Susan are receiving Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus A with net income between 100% and 133% of the FPL. They are renewing eligibility for April 1, 2005. The district completed the renewal processing on March 5, 2005. Even though Susan meets the age and income criteria for the eligibility change, because the district completed her renewal prior to the date the new budget logic went into effect, Susan will be given a full year of Child Health Plus A coverage and will not be moved to Child Health Plus B until she comes up for renewal in 2006. At that time, if her net income is still between 100% and 133% of the FPL, she will be closed using the new closing code.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Farber are receiving Family Health Plus, and their daughter Mandy receives Child Health Plus A with net income between 100% and 133% of the FPL. They were due to submit their renewal by June 15th. When it is not received by the 15th, the district begins the countdown to closing for "failure to renew". On June 28th, the district receives the renewal, but the case is already closed. The family's net income is still between 100% and 133% of the FPL. Mr. and Mrs. Farber's Family Health Plus coverage can be re activated after a face-to-face interview, using the renewal as a new application. However, Mandy cannot be reactivated, because she is no longer eligible. The family will have to apply for CHPlus B for her independently.

Note: Because this is considered a new application, it is not appropriate to reopen Mandy and subsequently close her using the new closing codes. The reopening will generate a new CSD period, to which she is not entitled.