

DSS-4357EL

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GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
DIVISION: Office of Medicaid Management

08/23/01

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GIS 01 MA/032

TO: All Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Betty Rice, Director
Division of Consumer & Local District Relations

SUBJECT: Expansion to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2002

CONTACT PERSON: Local District Liaison at (518) 474-8216 or
New York City (212) 268-6855

The Department has just been advised by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), formerly the Health Care Financing Administration, that our State Plan amendment to expand the Child Health Plus A level for children age six up to age 19 to 133 per cent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) has been approved. The effective date of this amendment is January 1, 2002.

This means that the family income of all children from age one up to age nineteen whose Child Health Plus A eligibility is determined using the poverty levels will be measured against a single income standard, 133% of the FPL. The expanded eligibility criteria for children up to age one will continue to be 200% of the FPL. This will eliminate the need for children to transfer to CHPlus B simply because they have turned six.

There will be no local share for the program costs associated with this expansion, and administrative costs will be reimbursed, subject to certain limitations.

Directives explaining these changes and related systems support will be issued.