

GIS 02 MA/008

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, Accounting Staff,
Staff Development coordinators

FROM: Kathryn Kuhmerker, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Medicaid Management

SUBJECT: Child Health Plus A (Medicaid) Coverage for Children Age Six
through Age Eighteen at 133 Percent of the Federal Poverty Level

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2002

CONTACT PERSON: Local District Support Unit: (518) 474-8216 Upstate
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The purpose of this GIS message is to remind districts that the Child Health Plus A income level for children age six through age 18 will be increased to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) as stated in GIS 01 MA/042. This change is effective April 1, 2002.

The family income of all children from age one through age 18 who apply for Child Health Plus A eligibility will be determined using a single income standard, 133% of the FPL, effective April 1, 2002. 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 age six.

The Individual Categorical Code in WMS must be changed to 60 (Child 6 - 18 years of age 100-133%) when a child becomes 6 and changed to another code when the individual turns 19 years old. The Anticipated Future Action (AFA) Report (WINR 4137) will inform you of these critical ages. The proper Individual Categorical Code is necessary to assure the appropriate eligibility category and shares claiming. There is no local share for the program costs associated with the expansion of coverage to children whose family income exceeds 100% of the FPL but does not exceed 133% of the FPL.

If a child had been eligible for Medicaid with a spenddown requirement during any part of the period beginning April 1, 2002, a re-determination of eligibility under the 133% of the FPL must be made for possible reimbursement of paid medical bills or payment of incurred medical expenses up to the spenddown amount. Reimbursement must be handled in accordance with the procedures set forth in the "New York State Fiscal Reference Manual for Local Departments of Social Services" in Volume I, Chapter 7, and Volume II, Chapter 5.

Upstate WMS systems support is described in the March 12, 2002 WMS Coordinator letter. A directive explaining these changes will be forthcoming. A draft copy of the directive will be forwarded to the Commissioner, pending issuance of the finalized version.

NYC WMS systems support is described in NYC MABEL Transmittal 2002.1 and NYC Workers Guide to Codes 2002.1 dated March 26, 2002.