

WGIUPD

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

11/05/02

**DIVISION:** Office of Medicaid Management

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**GIS** 02 MA/027

**TO:** Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

**FROM:** Kathryn Kuhmerker, Deputy Commissioner  
Office of Medicaid Management

**SUBJECT:** Expired Permanent Resident Cards (I-155, I-151)  
"green cards"

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**CONTACT PERSON:** Local District Support Unit  
Upstate (518) 474-8216 NYC (212) 268-6855

The purpose of this GIS message is to clarify Medicaid documentation policy for aliens presenting expired "green cards".

Immigration and Naturalization Forms I-155 and I-551 (i.e. "green cards") are issued to aliens who have been granted permanent resident status in the United States. The expiration date indicates when the card expires and must be renewed. It does NOT indicate that the aliens' status has expired. The alien retains his/her status as Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) while in this country.

For the purposes of obtaining Medicaid benefits, an I-155 or I-151 that contains an expired date is acceptable documentation of legal permanent resident status. Although the INS requires that the individual simply renew the I-155, this is not a requirement for the purpose of applying for Medicaid benefits.