

DSS-4357EL

WGIUPD

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

05/01/96

**DIVISION:** Health & Long Term Care

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**GIS 96 MA/016**

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

**FROM:** Richard T. Cody, Deputy Commissioner

**SUBJECT:** Termination of MA: Notification of Discontinuance

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** There is no new effective date.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Wendy Butz 1-800-343-8859, extension 4-9141

As a result of the generation of discontinuance notices through the Client Notice System (CNS), questions have arisen regarding the effective date to be used for certain closing transactions. This message is to clarify the effective date of discontinuance that a social services district should use when discontinuing a Medical Assistance case because of the recipient's ineligibility for continued assistance, failure to cooperate with providing necessary information, or other factors which affect continued eligibility.

When a social services district determines that a recipient is no longer eligible for Medical Assistance, including instances where a recipient fails to comply with a district's request for information, Medical Assistance should be terminated following timely (10 day) notice. Timely notice means a notice which is mailed at least 10 days before the date upon which the action is to become effective.

On WMS the closing transaction date will close the case 10 days in the future (Transaction Date plus 10) in order to provide for a timely and adequate notice to be mailed. It should be noted that recipients have coverage through the end of the 10th day. For example, a system closing completed on June 14th results in a June 24th closing date on WMS. The recipient has coverage for June 24.

Automated notices currently in use by upstate districts support this policy by using the CNS mail date (the date following the transaction date on WMS) plus 10 days. The effective date on the notice is the first date the recipient will no longer have Medicaid coverage. In the above example, the notice would be mailed on June 15th with an effective date of June 25.

If a coverage To Date is less than 10 days from the transaction date, the system will extend the Medicaid coverage to cover the required 10 day notice period. Social services districts should note that there are exceptions to date specific closings. For example, pregnant women that fail to respond to recertification packages must continue to be covered until the end of the 60 day postpartum period. See 89 ADM-51, Date Specific Medical Assistance Eligibility, for other exceptions to date specific closings.

Although CNS is designed to issue the appropriate notice of discontinuance, it is important that the closing transaction be entered on WMS at the appropriate time.