

DSS-4357EL

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GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
DIVISION: Office of Medicaid Management

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TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, Fiscal Administrators
FROM: Betty Rice, Director
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations
SUBJECT: Reallocation of Enhanced Funding for Welfare Reform Activities
EFFECTIVE DATE: September 7, 2000
CONTACT PERSON: Robin Johnson (518) 473-6206

This GIS message is to advise local social services districts that some of the enhanced federal funding for Medicaid Welfare Reform Activities is still available. Administrative Directive 98 OMM/ADM-5, "Enhanced Federal Funding for Implementation of Certain Medicaid Welfare Reform Requirements," advised districts how to claim reimbursement for certain administrative expenditures related to the implementation of welfare reform. This directive requested that districts submit a spending plan describing the activities for which the funding will be claimed. Most (but not all) districts submitted such plans and were allocated funds. The directive stated that the funds were available for activities that occurred from December 2, 1996 through September 30, 1999. The end date of September 30, 1999 has since been removed from the original legislation, allowing districts the benefit of these funds for activities occurring after September 30, 1999.

Some districts have submitted claims far short of their allocation, while other districts have spent amounts in excess of their allocation. As this is an important initiative, we would encourage districts to maximize the use of the remaining funds.

Districts that have received approval of their spending plans, but have not submitted claims for the full amount approved, must notify this office no later than September 15, 2000 of any amounts encumbered, but not yet claimed, and also of any anticipated expenses for the remainder of this year. Our estimation of any unused balances remaining, based on this response, will be reallocated among those districts that have demonstrated additional need.

If you have spent all of your allotted funds (or if you anticipate spending all of your funds) and would also like an additional amount for allowable activities, please submit a new or revised plan to this office no later than September 15, 2000, for consideration in the reallocation process. The plan can include activities that occurred before or after September 30, 1999. If you have never submitted a plan, you may also use this opportunity to request funds by submitting a plan no later than September 15, 2000. (Note: Those districts that have submitted proposals to establish Transitional Opportunities Program (TOP) offices may wish to consider the use of any unspent allocations to support Medicaid-related activities in such offices.)

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If you have previously requested an amount that was in excess of your allocation, you will automatically be considered in the reallocation process. You do not need to submit a new request unless you wish to modify your original request.

Please note that approval will be based on the amount of remaining funds and is not guaranteed.

Please submit all requests to:

Betty Rice, Director
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations
Office of Medicaid Management
New York State Department of Health
One Commerce Plaza, P.O. Box 118
Albany, New York 12260-0118