



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
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Lt. Governor

JOHN R. GUHL
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 10-01 DATE: March 2, 2010

TO: County Welfare Agency (CWA) Directors
 Statewide Eligibility Determination Agencies

SUBJECT: Program Changes For NJ FamilyCare Parents/Caretakers

The State of New Jersey is facing unprecedented financial crisis. The budget appropriation language grants authority to the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services to modify enrollment levels in the NJ FamilyCare program as deemed necessary to ensure that monies expended for that program do not exceed the amount appropriated. Therefore, the following changes will be made to the NJ FamilyCare program:

- Effective March 31, 2010 coverage for non-pregnant Restricted Alien adults, who would have been lawfully admitted for permanent resident but **not** in this country five years with that status, will cease. This group has been identified on our Medicaid Eligibility System (MES) with a Special Program Code (SPC) of 40. This change will not affect individuals enrolled in programs for pregnant women and children.
- New applications received on or after March 1, 2010 for NJ FamilyCare will **no longer** be processed for enrollment for higher income parents. Those parents are identified by a Program Status Code of 497 or 498. This change will not affect parents and caretakers who would qualify for AFDC-Related Medicaid using those rules in effect as of July 16, 1996 or those parents or caretakers that qualify because of using the enhanced earned income disregard (PSC 380).

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) will be sending letters to the Medicaid Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Advocates, Legislative Offices and other community partners/sites advising them of these changes. In addition, NJ FamilyCare program materials are being reviewed and updated to reflect these changes.

All Restricted Alien non-pregnant adult recipients will be systemically terminated by DMAHS. There will be no new applicant Restricted Alien non-pregnant adults added to the programs. Two letters are being developed and sent to the clients. One termination letter will be sent to all current enrollees giving the client proper notification as well as a right to grieve the termination if the immigration status is incorrect. A different termination letter will be sent to those non-pregnant restricted alien adults who were found eligible but to date have not been enrolled in the program. This letter will notify them that their eligibility will not be established based on the changes to the program.

Remember, the program changes do not affect children and pregnant women recipients or applicants. A more detailed Medicaid Communication explaining these changes and their operational impact will follow for both groups affected by these changes. Appropriate material will be included with that communication.

If you have any questions regarding this Medicaid Communication, please refer them to the field service staff for your agency in the DMAHS Office of Policy at 609-588-2556.

Sincerely,



John R. Guhl
Director

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c: Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
Department of Human Services

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Division of Disability Services

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