



State of New Jersey

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

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ADDRESS REPLY TO:
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TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 88-2

DATE: January 7, 1988

TO: COUNTY WELFARE AGENCY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Continuing Medicaid Eligibility for
Disabled Adult Children

The Employment Opportunities for Disabled Americans Act (P.L. 99-643) provides for protection of Medicaid eligibility for certain persons known as disabled adult children. Disabled adult children are persons who are eligible to collect children's Social Security insurance benefits on another person's account (usually a parent) and because of their own disability or blindness are entitled to continue receiving the children's insurance benefits beyond the age of 18. In order to qualify for this special Medicaid eligibility consideration, an individual must:

- a) be at least 18 years old;
- b) have become disabled or blind prior to attaining the age of 22;
- c) have been receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) on the basis of blindness or disability; and,
- d) have lost SSI as a result of the receipt of child's insurance benefits under Social Security or as a result of an increase in those benefits on or after July 1, 1987.

An individual meeting all the above criteria will qualify for special eligibility consideration regardless of his or her age at the time SSI eligibility is lost. It is important to note that in order to be eligible for continued Medicaid coverage the date of entitlement to the child's insurance benefits is the key factor. The date of entitlement to such benefits often predates the date of actual receipt. An individual whose entitlement to (or increase in) child's insurance benefits is prior to July 1, 1987 is not eligible for this special coverage.

For affected SSI records, the Social Security Administration will place a "D" in the Medicaid eligibility field of the SDX (State Data

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Exchange). The Medicaid eligibility field is immediately below "H" in the series "A" through "S" on the third information line on the extreme right-hand side of the record. The SDX will also show the amount of Social Security benefit in the month prior to the loss of SSI and the current Social Security benefit amount. Eligibility under this special provision may also be ascertained through analysis of information available on the Automated Beneficiary Exchange (ABIE) or received through Third-Party Query.

In determining Medicaid eligibility for individuals qualifying for this special consideration, the county welfare agency is to disregard the dollar amount of the increase in child's insurance benefits that caused the ineligibility for SSI. For those cases in which SSI benefits ceased because of the initial receipt of children's insurance benefits, the full amount of that benefit shall be disregarded for Medicaid eligibility purposes. Any subsequent increase in the children's insurance benefits shall likewise be excluded, including Social Security cost-of-living increases.

This special eligibility consideration shall continue until such time as the individual no longer qualifies as disabled or blind or becomes ineligible for Medicaid because of other income or resources.

Questions concerning this Communication should be referred to the Medicaid field staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Russo, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services

TMR:Hg

cc: Odella T. Welch
Deputy Commissioner

Marion E. Reitz, Acting Director
Division of Public Welfare

William Waldman, Acting Director
Division of Youth and Family Services
Management Team