



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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Informational Letter

Section 1

Transmittal:	16-INF-12
To:	Local District Commissioners
Issuing Division/Office:	Center for Employment and Economic Supports
Date:	July 26, 2016
Subject:	Temporary Assistance/Medicaid Policy: Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Temporary Assistance Applicants Also Applying for Medicaid and Introduction of - Tax Dependent Questions (Added to Application Form DSS-2921)
Suggested Distribution:	Temporary Assistance Directors Medicaid Directors Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Directors Employment Coordinators Staff Development Coordinators
Contact Person(s):	Temporary Assistance Policy Questions @ (518) 474-9344 Medicaid Questions @ (518) 474-8887 Forms Questions - Kelly Whitney @ (518) 473-7991
Attachments:	
Attachment Available Online:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
			1902 (e)(14)(A)		

Section 2

I. Purpose

The purpose of this informational letter is the following:

- inform districts of certain specific Medicaid implications of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2014 for Temporary Assistance (TA) applicants/recipients;

- introduce the new questions in the Common Application LDSS-2921 that pertain to this area; and
- advise districts of required action.

II. Background

Effective January 1, 2014, the ACA established a new Medicaid eligibility category called the adult group. This group includes individuals who are age 19 or older and under age 65 with Modified Adjusted Gross Income up to 133% of the federal poverty level. Financial eligibility for this group is determined based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI), as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, barring certain exceptions. These rules also determine the income that is required to be included in the applicant's MAGI household income.

To facilitate Medicaid enrollment for a large number of newly eligible individuals, states have the option to enroll individuals in the adult group based on their gross income as determined by the Temporary Assistance (TA) program. In New York, the State is able to receive enhanced federal funding for individuals in the adult group.

For the State to determine that a TA eligible recipient (who has also applied for Medicaid) qualifies under a MAGI-based determination, the applicant must indicate whether he/she will be claiming any individual(s) who do not live in the household as a tax dependent. To obtain this information, additional questions have been added to the recently revised Common Application, LDSS-2921.

III. Program Implications

Implications for Districts Other Than New York City (NYC)

For upstate districts (districts other than NYC) the "Tax Dependent Question" must be completed by the applicant in section 11 of the LDSS-2921 application. Section 11 reads, "Tax Filing/Dependent Status-Please select the tax status for each individual living in the household" and "Tax dependents not living in the household. Please list any tax dependents who do not live with you and are claimed by you or anyone in your household. If you do not file taxes you can skip this question."

- If the answer is "Will not be filing taxes," or they do not list anyone they claim who lives outside of the household, no further action is required and the application should be kept in the case file.
- If a dependent is listed that lives outside of the household, the TA worker must send a copy of the completed pages of the application, section 6 and section 11, to the Department of Health following the instructions below.

Upstate districts must submit the application pages to NYSOH either by mail to:

New York State Department of Health
Office of Health Insurance Programs
Bureau of Stakeholder Relations and Exchange Support
PO Box 11780
Albany NY 12211

Or by fax to:
518-474-4959

Implications for New York City

For New York City TA cases, the tax questions will be added to the online application, Paperless Office System (POS). The system modification is expected in October 2016. When the question is answered yes, the system will automatically set a Restriction/Exception code that will prevent the enhanced funding to be collected. No action is needed by the TA worker prior to this system change.

Issued By

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Title: Deputy Commissioner

Division/Office: Center for Employment and Economic Supports