



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

P.O. Box 712

Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

Telephone 1-800-356-1561

RICHARD J. CODEY
Acting Governor

JAMES M. DAVY
Commissioner

ANN CLEMENCY KOHLER
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 05- 05 DATE: May 23, 2005

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: NJ FamilyCare Enrollment Initiative
Using Food Stamp Case File and FAMIS Data Instead of a NJ FamilyCare Application
to Determine a Child's Eligibility for NJ FamilyCare

In an effort to enroll more children in NJ FamilyCare, the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services recently reviewed Food Stamp data to identify children who appear to be financially eligible for NJ FamilyCare. A report identifying these children was distributed to the Directors of the County Boards of Social Services (CBOSS), at their monthly meeting on May 6, 2005. Attached is a copy of the memo that was distributed with the report.

The Directors were asked to have staff review eligibility for these children for NJ FamilyCare using the Food Stamp case file and FAMIS data instead of a NJ FamilyCare application because the Food Stamp case file and the FAMIS data should provide sufficient information--household size, income, age and citizenship--needed to make an eligibility determination. Eligible children shall then be enrolled into NJ FamilyCare with an effective date of July 1, 2005. To reach this goal, all eligible children must be entered in the Medicaid Eligibility File by the Medicaid cutoff date of June 22, 2005.

These cases need not be outreached for additional information regarding other health insurance. However, if the case record indicates that the family does not want NJ FamilyCare because of other health insurance, do not enroll them in NJ FamilyCare. Indicate on the status report, explained below, that the child(ren) was/were not enrolled and the reason why.

Eligibility determinations made through this initiative will not be cited with Quality Control Eligibility errors during the initial period of eligibility prior to a redetermination. These cases may be redetermined at the time of their next Food Stamp redetermination or no later than 12 months from the effective date of coverage. Failure to comply with a Food Stamp redetermination shall not in and of itself cause ineligibility for NJ FamilyCare.

Attached is a letter which shall be used to advise families that their children are eligible for NJ FamilyCare. If a child is not eligible, there is no need to send a letter to that effect. Also, cases that appear to be eligible for NJ FamilyCare Plans B, C, or D should not be sent to the Statewide Eligibility Determination Agency at this time but should be documented on the status report.

The first status report of reviewed cases, as mentioned in the May 6, 2005 letter from Douglas McGruther to the CWA directors, is due to DMAHS at the next CWA Director's meeting on June 3, 2005. The report should indicate which cases were found eligible and their effective date; which cases were not eligible and the reasons and which cases may need to be referred to the Statewide Eligibility Determination Agency (Health Benefits Coordinator.)

Any questions should be referred to the appropriate field staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,

/S/

Ann Clemency Kohler
Director

ACK:ej
Attachments

c: Fred M. Jacobs, M.D., J.D., Commissioner
Kathleen M. Mason, Acting Deputy Commissioner
Department of Health and Senior Services

Edward E. Cotton, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Youth and Family Services

Jeanette Page-Hawkins, Director
Division of Family Development

Carol Grant, Acting Director
Division of Developmental Disabilities



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DATE: May 6, 2005

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: Food Stamp Recipients Under Age 19 Who Are Not Enrolled In Any Medical Programs And May Be Eligible for NJ FamilyCare

Enclosed are copies of two versions of the report: One is the agency's master copy and the other is the worker's copy.

The report lists Food Stamp recipients who are under the age of 19 as of September 1, 2005, who were identified as having no enrollments in any Medical programs (i.e. SSI, Medicaid Only, NJ Care, AFDC-related, NJ FamilyCare, NJ Care Pregnant Women) as of June 30, 2005 and whose family's income is below 133% of FPL. The 133% is based on family's food stamp gross amount minus SSI, GA, and TANF Grant Amount and Food Stamp family size minus any food stamp recipients identified as receiving SSI and General Assistance.

Last Name, First Name, birth date, gender, and social security number were used to match the Food Stamp recipients against Medicaid Eligibility File. We were looking for non-matches - if at least four of the five items did not match, then the Food Stamp recipient was considered as not being enrolled in any programs. Therefore, there may be some children listed on the report who may be enrolled in a Medical program but they did not meet the match criteria.

Any children that are listed in the Food Stamp household as an adult (Person Code equals "A" or "B"), should be enrolled as a child for NJ FamilyCare (Medicaid Person Numbers "20" through "49").

Please have your staff review these children for NJ FamilyCare including AFDC-related.

Any children that are found eligible should be entered through FAMIS or the Medicaid Eligibility System prior to June 22, 2005. If there is a discrepancy between FAMIS and Medicaid Eligibility System concerning demographic information (name, birth date, gender, and SSN) please have the worker correct this information on either or both systems.

Any system related questions regarding these reports may be directed to DMAHS/OIS HelpDesk at (609) 588-2971. Any policy related questions should be directed to field service staff assigned to your county at DMAHS, Bureau of Eligibility Policy, at (609) 588-2556.



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Date:

In reviewing your case record, staff determined that your child(ren), under the age of 19, is(are) eligible for additional medical assistance through the NJ FamilyCare program effective _____.

NJ FamilyCare covers many important services for children. These services include regular doctor visits, prescription drugs, hospitalization, x-rays, eyeglasses and dental care. In a short while, you will receive a NJ FamilyCare ID card with the names of your eligible child(ren).

If other family members are currently enrolled in a NJ FamilyCare Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), your child(ren) will be added to that HMO. If family members are not already enrolled, you will be contacted later to select an HMO for your child(ren). In the meantime, until your child(ren) is(are) enrolled in an HMO, he or she may receive services only from a participating NJ FamilyCare doctor. Please check with your doctor to make sure he or she accepts NJ FamilyCare.

If you have any questions, please contact your caseworker at _____.