

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza
Room 37-100
New York, New York 10278-0063



March 8, 2011

Jason A. Helgeson, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Health Insurance Programs
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Room 1441
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Dear Mr. Helgeson:

We have completed our review of New York State Plan Amendment submittal 08-44, “Low Income Families (LIF) Income and Resource Standard Exclusion of Census Wages” (Attachment 2.6-A, Supplement 12, pages 4, 4a, 5 and 6) and find it acceptable for incorporation into New York’s Medicaid Plan, effective April 1, 2008. Enclosed please find copies of State Plan Amendment 08-44 and Form CMS-179.

Please note that we have substituted the originally submitted pages with the revised pages submitted with New York’s February 9, 2011 response to our September 17, 2008 Request for Additional Information.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further please contact Patricia Ryan of my staff at 212-616-2436.

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael Melendez
Acting Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid and Children’s Health

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL FOR: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 08-44	2. STATE New York
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE April 1, 2008	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One): <input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: Section 1931 of the Social Security Act		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: a. FFY \$0 b. FFY \$0	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 2.6-A Supplement 12, pages 4, 4a, & 5, 6 ** SEE REMARKS		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable): Attachment 2.6-A, Supplement 12, pages 4 & 5, 6 Supplement 12 to Attachment 2.6-A Addendum	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Low Income Families (LIF) Income and Resource Standard, Exclusion of Census wages			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL			
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:		16. RETURN TO: New York State Department of Health Corning Tower Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237	
13. TYPED NAME: Jason Helgeson			
14. TITLE: Deputy Director Department of Health			
15. DATE SUBMITTED:			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED:		18. DATE APPROVED: MAR 08 2011	
PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: APR 01 2008		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:	
21. TYPED NAME: Michael Melendez		22. TITLE: Acting Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid and State Operations	
23. REMARKS: Originally submitted pages have been replaced with revised pages via State email of February 09, 2011, response to our September 17, 2008 Request for Additional Information.			

OFFICIAL

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: New York

ELIGIBILITY UNDER SECTION 1931 OF THE ACT

The State covers low-income families and children under section 1931 of the Act.

The following groups were included in the AFDC State plan effective July 16, 1996:

- Pregnant Women with no other eligible children.
- AFDC children age 18 who are full-time students in a secondary school or in the equivalent level of vocational or technical training.

In determining eligibility for Medicaid, The agency uses the AFDC standards and methodologies in effect as of July 16, 1996 without modification.

In determining eligibility for Medicaid, the agency uses the AFDC standards and methodologies in effect as of July 16, 1996 with the following modifications.

The agency applies lower income standards which are no lower than the AFDC standards in effect on May 1, 1988, as follows

The agency applies higher income standards than those in effect as of July 16, 1996, increased by no more than the percentage Increases in the CPI-U since July 16, 1996, as follows:

The income standard by household size is based on 130% of the Suffolk County Standard of Need in 1996, adjusted each year effective January 1st by the annual increase in the October CPI-U. (see Page 4a)

TN#: 08-44

Approval Date: MAR 08 2011

Supersedes TN#: 99-17

Effective Date: APR 01 2008

OFFICIAL

Section 1931 Income Levels

Household Size	Baseline (1996 Monthly Income Level; same level used 1997 through 2007)	130% of Baseline (2008 Monthly Income Level)
1	517.10	673
2	645.50	840
3	768.00	999
4	891.70	1,160
5	1,019.70	1,326
6	1,113.20	1,448
7	1,211.70	1,576
8	1,338.20	1,740
9	1,410.70	1,834
10	1,483.20	1,929
Each additional	73	95

TN#: 08-44

Approval Date: MAR 08 2011

Supersedes TN#: New

Effective Date: APR 01 2008

OFFICIAL

_____ The agency applies higher resource standards than those in effect as of July 16, 1996, increased by no more than the percentage increases in the CPI-U since July 16, 1996, as follows:

X_____ The agency uses less restrictive income and/or resource methodologies than those in effect as of July 16, 1996, as follows:

1. Individual development accounts*
2. Household gross income is first compared to 185% of the 1931 income level for the appropriate household size. If gross income is equal to or below this level and the combined earned and unearned gross income does not exceed 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) for a household of the appropriate size, a percentage (as defined below) of earned income is disregarded. This percentage disregard is calculated as follows: from 100% FPL amount for a household of three, subtract \$90 work disregard and the 1931 income level for a household of three. The amount remaining is divided by the difference between 100% FPL for a household of three and \$90. This result, rounded up, is the percent of earned income to be disregarded. This percentage is adjusted June 1st yearly, based on the Federal Poverty Level amounts published for that year in the Federal Register. However, if it is more advantageous, \$30 and 1/3 of the remaining income is disregarded if the employed person was on PA one of the four proceeding months instead of disregarding income based on the percentage above. At the conclusion of the four months, only the \$30 portion of the \$30 and 1/3 disregard is applied for an additional eight months.
3. One automobile, of any value, is exempt as long as it is being used by the household. A second vehicle may be exempt if there is a medical need for it, or it is being used for employment-related activities. A third vehicle is also exempt if there is a child under 21 years of age in the household and the vehicle is being used due to a medical need, school attendance, or employment.
4. All wages paid by the Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census activities are excluded.
5. When determining countable resources, available resources up to an amount equal to 150% of the Medically Needy annual income level are disregarded.

*Individual development accounts (IDA) are excluded from resources; interest earned on IDA accounts is excluded from income.

TN#: 08-44

Approval Date: MAR 08 2011

Supersedes TN#: 99-17

Effective Date: APR 01 2008

OFFICIAL

The income and/or resources methodologies in effect as of July 16, 1996 that the less restrictive methodologies replace are as follows:

1. Individual development accounts (IDA) are an available resource; interest from IDA is income.
2. The income standard is equal to the PA Standard of need, which is based on household size and county of residence, and consists of the Public Assistance (PA) basic allowance, home energy allowance, supplemental home energy allowance, shelter allowance, and fuel for heating allowance. The $\$30$ and $1/3$ of remaining income is disregarded if the employed person was on PA one of the four preceding months. At the conclusion of the four months, only the $\$30$ portion of the $\$30$ and $1/3$ disregard is applied for an additional eight months.
3. $\$1500$ equity value of an automobile is excluded from the total value; the remaining value is counted as an available resource.
4. Census Bureau wages are counted as earned income.
5. Countable resources cannot exceed $\$1,000$.

_____ The agency terminates medical assistance (except for certain pregnant women and children) for individuals who fail to meet TANF work requirements.

_____ The agency continues to apply the following waivers of provisions of Part A of title IV in effect as of July 16, 1996, or submitted prior to August 22, 1996 and approved by the Secretary on or before July 1, 1997.

TN#: 08-44
Supersedes TN#: 99-17

Approval Date: MAR 08 2011
Effective Date: APR 01 2008