



..CONNECTIONS NEWS..

for the week of March 6 - 13, 2009

Developing a more caseworker centric system

CONNECTIONS Intranet site: <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>

FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

"Info to Know" for Caseworkers

- *Family Assessment and Response (FAR) Questions and Answers ...pg. 1 ...more*
- *Two New Administrative Directives (ADM) ..pg. 2 ...more*

General "Info to Know"

- *The Records Retention Report Run Scheduled for March 23rd Is Postponed ...pg. 2 ...more*
- ****UPDATE**** *On The Records Retention Report Recipient Request ...pg. 2 ...more*
- ****UPDATE**** *The OCI Monthly Report Series for February 2009 ...pg. 3 ...more*
- *General Information System Message (09-004) WMS Services Edits in Retro Eligibility Processing ...pg. 3 ...more*
- *NEW Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet ... pg. 4 ...more*
- *Weekly System Maintenance ... pg. 5 ...more*

"Info to Know" for Caseworkers

? *Family Assessment Response (FAR) Questions & Answers*

A collection of questions and answers related to Family Assessment Response (FAR) is available on the CONNECTIONS intranet site at the following link:
[http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/faq/FAR%20QA%20\(2%2027\)%20\(2\).pdf](http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/faq/FAR%20QA%20(2%2027)%20(2).pdf).



Two NEW Administrative Directives (ADM)

- 09-OCFS-ADM-05 New Statutes Affecting Kinship Care: Chapters 404 and 519 of the Laws of 2008
- 09-OCFS-ADM-06 Domestic Violence Services for Undocumented Persons

Two new ADMs have been posted to the OCFS intranet site. They are:

- 09-OCFS-ADM-05 New Statutes Affecting Kinship Care: Chapters 404 and 519 of the Laws of 2008
http://ocfs.state.nyenet/policies/external/OCFS_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-05%20New%20Statutes%20Affecting%20Kinship%20Care%20Chapters%20404%20and%20519%20of%20the%20Laws%20of%202008.pdf
- 09-OCFS-ADM-06 Domestic Violence Services for Undocumented Persons
http://ocfs.state.nyenet/policies/external/OCFS_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-06%20Domestic%20Violence%20Services%20for%20Undocumented%20Persons.pdf

General "Info to Know"



The Records Retention Report Run Scheduled for March 23rd Is Postponed

*****Please note that this piece pertains to local districts only.***

Please note that the Records Retention run that was scheduled for March 23rd will be postponed. We do not have another run date as yet but will keep you posted when a date is confirmed. A communication, relating this information, was forwarded to local district Directors of Service as well as Records Retention report recipients.



*****UPDATE** on the Records Retention Report Recipient Request***

*****Please note that this piece pertains to local districts only.***

On February 23rd we sent a communication to Directors of Service and local district Record Retention report recipients letting them know that we are in the process of updating the distribution list of individuals who receive the Records Retention report at the local level. To this end, we identified the names of individuals in each district to

whom the report is currently sent. We asked that the list of individuals be reviewed and a reply to the email was requested by Friday, March 6th, **only** if changes (delete or add names) to the list were necessary. To date we have received responses from about half of the local districts so we are extending the response date to Friday, March 13th. If your district did not receive the email please contact either Donna Cramer (Donna.Cramer@ocfs.stste.ny.us) or Jeannie Hoag (Jeannie.Hoag@ocfs.state.ny.us).



****UPDATE**** *The OCI Monthly Report Series for February 2009*

The OCI Monthly Report Series (the Monthly Management Report, the Monthly Management Summary Report and the Statewide Totals Report) will run this weekend and will reflect work completed through March 6th. If you have any questions related to the OCI Monthly Report Series we ask that you contact your regional CONNECTIONS Implementation staff.

GIS

General Information System (09-004)

WMS Services Edits in Retro Eligibility Processing

****** The information below pertains to local districts only.

TO: Directors of Services

FROM: Paul Gavry

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Services, Services Caseworkers and Supervisors, Data Entry Operators

SUBJECT: WMS Services Edits in Retro Eligibility Processing

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 23, 2009

CONTACT: OCFS-IT Customer Support at 1-800-342-3727

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is to provide local departments of social services (LDSS) with information regarding edit changes affecting Retro Eligibility processing using WMS screen WSURET.

Changes to Retro Eligibility Processing (WSURET)

GIS 08-#006, issued July 1, 2008, advised that WMS Retroactive Eligibility processing (screen WSURET) lacked appropriate age edits when Title IV-E eligibility (EL Code 02) was used.

No Foster Care payments may be claimed as Title IV-E if the child is the 19 year of age or older or is 18 years of age and is not expected to graduate from secondary school before their 19th birthday. Children are also not IV-E eligible if they are 18 years of age and have already graduated from secondary school.

Adoption Subsidy payments may not be claimed as Title IV-E if the child is 18 years of age or older and is not designated as a Special Needs child.

Effective 2/23/09, WSURET has been modified to calculate the individual's age during the retro "period" and process appropriately by:

- Generating applicable error; 982 - Services 61-75 were purchased for an individual age 19 or older, and the claiming category is 02.
- Generating an advisory if Services 61-75 were purchased for an individual age 18 or older during the effective retro-eligibility period and the claiming category is 02. This advisory will appear on both the WSURET screen at the time of transmittal and on the Retroactive Eligibility Report. The advisory will read "CIN Eligibility is IVE and CIN is 18. Verify that FC CIN was a Student for Retro Eligibility Time Period"
- Generating an advisory if no history of Services purchases are found for the effective retro-eligibility for an individual age 18 or older and the claiming category is 02. This advisory will appear on both the WSURET screen at the time of transmittal and on the Retroactive Eligibility Report. The advisory will read "CIN Eligibility is IVE and CIN between 18 to 21 years old."
- Generating an advisory if Adoption Subsidy Services 01, 49, 52, 53, 54, 55, 77 and 80 were purchased for an individual age 18 or older during the effective retro-eligibility period and the claiming category is 02. This advisory will appear on both the WSURET screen at the time of transmittal and on the Retroactive Eligibility Report. The advisory will read "CIN Eligibility is IVE and CIN between 18 to 21 years old. Verify that Adoption Subsidy CIN is Special Needs"

The WMS Services error guide has been updated to reflect these changes and is available in Public Folders at the following path:

*All Public Folders/dfa.state.ny.us/OCFS/TSU/ ***Services systems Reference Documents/ WMS Services reference documents*

For systems questions, please contact OCFS-IT Customer Support at 1-800-342-3727.

All GIS messages are available in Public Folders at the following path:

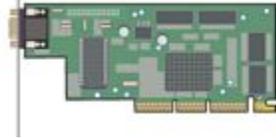
*All Public Folders/dfa.state.ny.us/OCFS/TSU/ ***Services Systems Reference Documents/ GIS (system change notices)*



NEW Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet

The following documents were recently posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website:

- **...CONNECTIONS NEWS...**
<http://ocfs.state.nynet/connect/>
- **Family Assessment Response (FAR) Questions & Answers**
[http://ocfs.state.nynet/connect/faq/FAR%20QA%20\(2%2027\)%20\(2\).pdf](http://ocfs.state.nynet/connect/faq/FAR%20QA%20(2%2027)%20(2).pdf)



Weekly System Maintenance

Due to regularly scheduled system maintenance, the CONNECTIONS application will not be available on...

- [Wednesday, 3/11/09](#) from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM
- [Friday, 3/13/09](#) from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM



Office of
Children & Family
Services
Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner