ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

DIVISION: Health and Long Term Care

TO: Commissioners of Social Services

DATE: August 17, 1995

SUBJECT: MA-Only ADC Categorical Eligibility for Caretakers of 18 to 20 Year Olds

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION:
- Medical Assistance Staff
- Public Assistance Staff
- Fair Hearing Staff
- Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON:
- 1-800-343-8859
- H&LTC: Upstate, call Sharon Burgess at extension 3-5531 (DMA026)
  New York City, call 212-383-2512
- Economic Security: Dottie Mullooly at 4-6853 (AV1760)

ATTACHMENTS: There are no attachments to this ADM.

FILING REFERENCES

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I. PURPOSE

This Directive notifies districts that parents or other caretaker relatives who are living with and caring for a child under the age of 21 who is deprived of parental support are categorically eligible for Aid to Dependent Children (ADC)-related Medical Assistance (MA).

II. BACKGROUND

MA regulations previously paralleled Public Assistance (PA) regulations that provide ADC eligibility for caretaker relatives only until a child is age 18 or age 19 if the child is in school. Federal regulations allow states to claim federal financial participation (FFP) for MA expenditures under the ADC program for caretaker relatives of dependent children who are under age 21 and are deprived of parental support. 18 NYCRR Section 360-3.3(b)(5) has been revised to allow ADC-related MA eligibility for caretakers of dependent children who meet the ADC deprivation criteria until the child is age 21.

III. PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

Caretaker relatives in families that meet the ADC deprivation criteria and in which the youngest child is 18, 19 or 20 years old are now eligible for ADC-related MA. Because FFP is available, district costs will decrease to 25 percent rather than 50 percent of total MA costs for these recipients.

IV. REQUIRED ACTION

A. Medical Assistance

DistRICTS must evaluate new applications to determine whether caretaker relatives of 18 to 20 year olds meet the requirements for ADC categorical eligibility. Districts must also be aware of ADC eligibility for such caretakers when making redeterminations of on-going eligibility and make appropriate changes to assure the proper coding of such caretakers. Intact households with no deprivation of parental support are not eligible for FFP for caretakers.

B. Public Assistance

PA cases that are not eligible for ADC because the youngest child of the caretaker is 18 (and not expected to graduate by the 19th birthday), 19 or 20 must continue to be provided assistance in the appropriate non-ADC case type, HR, PG-ADC or VA. However, workers must consider the eligibility of the caretaker relative(s) for ADC-related MA coverage.
V. SYSTEMS IMPLICATIONS

A. Medical Assistance

Caretaker relatives of children aged 18, 19 or 20 must be coded Individual Categorical Code 13, ADC Dependent Relative, to insure that FFP is received for MA paid.

B. Public Assistance

When workers determine that the non-ADC caretaker relative(s) meet eligibility requirements for ADC-related MA, the caretaker(s) must be coded with Individual Categorical Code 30- HR/FP Father. This code allows for cash to be paid as FNP but MA to be paid as FP. There is no edit that prevents this code to be used for a female. The terminology on the code cards will be revised.

C. Notices

For PA cases closed when the reason for closing the PA case is not a reason to close the MA case, a one month extension of MA for the caretaker relative coded Individual Categorical Code 30 as well as children under age 21 will be generated under the Client Notices System (CNS). A separate MA determination must be done for these cases in accordance with instructions in 82 ADM-5 (Rosenberg). Districts using manual notices must include a statement in the closing notice that MA will be continued until a separate MA determination is done. For districts piloting automatic notices under CNS, the appropriate notice will be system generated.

For PA cases closed when the reason for closing the PA case is also a reason for closing the MA case, no MA extension will be generated. Districts using manual notices must include a statement in the PA closing notice that the MA case also will be closed for the same reason. For districts piloting automatic notices under CNS, the appropriate notice will be system generated.

Districts may refer to the "Dear WMS Coordinator Letter" dated December 30, 1994 for a list of PA reason codes that will generate an MA extension.

Systems instructions for New York City will follow.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective September 1, 1995, retroactive to September 1, 1993.

Richard T. Cody
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Health and Long Term Care