



Date: August 23, 2017

To: Community Living Assistance and Support Services Case Management Agencies and Direct Service Agencies
Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities Program Providers
Financial Management Service Agencies
Home and Community-based Services Program Providers
Local Intellectual Developmental Disability Authorities
Texas Home Living Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 17-19
Temporary Extension of Medicaid for Certain Intellectual Developmental Disability Waiver Program Recipients Who Lose Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is notifying intellectual developmental disability Waiver Program providers and local intellectual developmental disability authorities of the implementation of a new process to temporarily extend Medicaid eligibility for certain individuals who lose Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and are enrolled in an intellectual developmental disability waiver program. With a denial of SSI, Medicaid is automatically ended. This letter is for informational purposes regarding a process change affecting certain individuals receiving waiver services and does not affect the providers' or local intellectual developmental disability authorities' current business practices.¹

Effective September 23, 2017:

- An individual who is 17 years of age or younger who loses SSI benefits and Medicaid² due to an increase in income may continue to be Medicaid eligible for 30 days after the date of denial of Medicaid, if the individual is enrolled in the:
 - Home and Community-based Services Program;

¹ This change is not related to HB 3292, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, relating to continuing medical assistance for certain individuals.

² This information letter does not apply to situations in which the individual loses eligibility for SSI due to an increase in income but continues to be eligible for Medicaid.

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- Community Living Assistance and Support Services Program; or
- Deaf-Blind with Multiple Disabilities Program.
- An individual who is 18 years of age or older who loses SSI and Medicaid due to an increase in Disabled Adult Children's or Widow/Widower's benefits may continue to be Medicaid eligible for 60 days after the date of denial of Medicaid, if the individual is enrolled in the:
 - Home and Community-based Services Program;
 - Community Living Assistance and Support Services Program;
 - Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities Program; or
 - Texas Home Living Program.

With implementation of this policy change, individuals who lose Medicaid as described above will receive the following documents at their mailing address currently on file with the Health and Human Services Commission:

- H1296, Notice of SSI Medicaid Ending;
- TF0001, Notice of Case Action; and
- Form H1200, Application for Assistance - Your Texas Benefits.

H1296, Notice of SSI Medicaid Ending, informs the individual of the denial date of the SSI and Medicaid along with the reason for the denial. The notice also provides information about who may be eligible for other types of Medicaid available, and informs the individual of ways to apply for Medicaid.

Form H1200 is a Medicaid application and must be completed and returned within the required timeframe described in the TF0001 to determine the individual's ongoing eligibility for Medicaid.

TF0001, Notice of Case Action, informs the individual of the temporary Medicaid coverage dates; informs the individual of the need to complete and return the enclosed Medicaid application for a determination of ongoing eligibility for Medicaid; and provides the required timeframe for returning the Medicaid application.

If requested by the individual or their legally authorized representative, the program provider, service coordinator, or case manager assists with completing and submitting the Medicaid application and follows current policy specific to the individual's intellectual developmental disability waiver program.

If the Health and Human Services Commission does not receive the Medicaid application within the timeframe described on the TF001 or if the individual's SSI benefits are not reinstated by the Social Security Administration prior to the end date of the temporary extension of Medicaid, the individual will lose Medicaid financial eligibility for the intellectual developmental disability waiver program.

Please note anytime a Medicaid application is submitted for an individual enrolled in an intellectual developmental disability waiver program, the program provider, service coordinator, or case manager completes and submit a Form H1746-A, MEPD Referral Cover Sheet, to the Health and Human Services Commission.

An individual or the individual's authorized representative may apply for benefits with the Health and Human Services Commission in one of the following ways:

- **Apply online:** Visit the Health and Human Services Commission website at: yourtexasbenefits.com
- **Call:** 2-1-1 or 1-877-541-7905; select a language and press 2 to apply over the phone or ask for a paper application to be mailed.
- **Apply in person:** call 2-1-1 or 1-877-541-7905; select a language and press 1 to ask for the nearest Health and Human Services Commission's office location.

An individual or the individual's authorized representative may contact the Social Security Administration for SSI-related eligibility questions:

- **Online at:** www.socialsecurity.gov
- **Call:** 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- **Visit:** Find a local Social Security Administration office by zip code search at: secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp

For questions about this IL, please send an email to one of the following email addresses that corresponds to the waiver program:

CLASSPolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us, DBMDPolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us,
HCSPolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us or TxHmLPolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us.

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Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Ivan Libson
Deputy Associate Commissioner
Program Enrollment & Support
HHSC Medicaid and CHIP Services

[signature on file]

Emily Zalkovsky
Deputy Associate Commissioner
Policy and Program
HHSC Medicaid and CHIP Services