

DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 11-05, EMERGENCY MEDICAID PROCEDURES FOR HURRICANE EVACUEES ADDENDUM 3

DATE: SEPTEMBER 30,2005

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY MEDICAID PROCEDURES FOR HURRICANE
EVACUEES

DISTRIBUTION: COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MEDICAID SUPERVISORS
MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY STAFF
DMA STAFF
CARE-LINE STAFF

I. BACKGROUND

In response to the destruction resulting from Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, North Carolina Medicaid is helping to coordinate efforts to provide essential services for Medicaid recipients who have evacuated to North Carolina from Louisiana (LA), Mississippi (MS), Alabama (AL), and Texas (TX). This letter is revised to give information on how to handle Hurricane Rita evacuees.

This letter provides guidance and procedures regarding assisting the displaced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas Medicaid and Health Choice recipients evacuating to North Carolina. Each county DSS must take and process applications for Medicaid and Health Choice for these individuals.

A. Information Concerning Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

1. The application period for evacuees of Hurricane Katrina has been extended through January 31, 2006. This means that Katrina evacuees have until January 31, 2006, to apply for Medicaid coverage.
2. The application processing time standard for Katrina Emergency Medicaid applicants remains 5 work days.
3. Katrina evacuees who meet North Carolina eligibility requirements are now eligible for up to 5 months of Medicaid or North Carolina Health Choice (NCHC) coverage.
4. For those Katrina cases authorized through November 30, 2005, you must now extend the certification period so that the recipient receives 5 months of Medicaid. An eligibility determination is not required.
 - a. Refer to your Case Management Report.

5. Applicants who state their intent to remain in North Carolina for an indefinite period of time (until they are able return to their home state) meet the State residency requirement.

II. POLICY PRINCIPLES

A. Waived Requirements

The following requirements are waived for Katrina Emergency Medicaid applicants.

1. Medicaid termination in AL, MS or LA,
2. Verification requirements excluding possible online verifications, and
3. State residency.

B. Accept applicant's statement for income and assets if verification is not available. Use SOLQ to verify SSA and SSI.

III. SPECIAL POLICY PROCEDURES FOR KATRINA AND RITA EVACUEES

A. Accept the applicant's statement for county/parish and state residence. The applicant must complete and sign the Application for Temporary Medicaid for [Hurricane Evacuees, Attachment 1](#).

B. If a social security number is unknown or unavailable, use zeros. Verify the social security number using SOLQ. Follow procedures in the Enumeration Procedures section of MA-3355 or MA-2450.

C. Document a local contact address in the case file, if needed, for future notifications.

D. Applicants for Emergency Medicaid for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are exempt from Carolina Access. Enter the exempt code 9900030 in EIS. Mecklenburg County should enter the exempt code 9900040.

E. Special Indicator Code

1. Katrina Evacuees
 - a. At the individual level in EIS, enter an Individual Special Use Code of AL (for Alabama), MS (for Mississippi), and LA (for Louisiana).
 - b. In the Date field beside the Individual Special Use code, enter the first and last month of eligibility. The last month of eligibility will be the fifth month, or the sixth month, if August is included in the eligibility period. For example, an application taken in September with August retro

eligibility would have dates entered 082005012006. An application taken in September with no retro eligibility would have dates entered 092005012006.

2. Rita Evacuees
 - a. At the individual level in EIS, enter an Individual Special Use Code of LR (for Louisiana evacuees from Hurricane Rita) or TX (for Texas evacuees from Hurricane Rita).
 - b. In the Date field beside the Individual Special Use code, enter the first and last month of the certification period. For example, an application taken in October for MIC with October eligibility would have dates entered 102005092006.

IV. AID/PROGRAM CATEGORIES

A. The following programs are exempt from this policy:

1. Special Assistance

The Division of Aging will provide Special Assistance instructions.
2. Refugee Assistance Program

For questions regarding refugees, asylees, etc., contact the Division of Social Services, Refugee Services at 919-733-4650 for guidance.
3. Work First

The Division of Social Services will provide Work First instructions.

B. Health Choice

1. Hurricane Katrina Evacuees

Approve applicants eligible for NCHC for one year and complete a review in their fourth month of assistance. Terminate individuals effective the fifth month of assistance if they do not meet eligibility requirements in North Carolina.

Enter a special review code or flag NCHC cases in order to review their eligibility before the end of their final month of assistance.
2. Hurricane Rita Evacuees

Approve applicants eligible for NCHC for one year. Since the re-enrollment process for NCHC is automated, EIS will automatically send a

re-enrollment notice and application to each recipient during the first week of the 11th month of the current enrollment period. Refer to automated redetermination/re-enrollment procedures in MA-3420, Re-Enrollment.

C. SSI Recipients

Verify SSI recipients through SOLQ and approve as non-SSI following procedures in I., II. and III. above.

D. MQB-B and MQB-E

Recipients who have their Medicare premium paid by another state are not eligible for MQB-B or MQB-E. However, due to eligibility differences between states, the applicant may be eligible for full Medicaid in North Carolina.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective October 1, 2005.

Should you encounter situations in which you need additional guidance, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

L. Allen Dobson, Jr., M.D., Assistant Secretary
For Health Policy and Medical Assistance

(This material was researched and written by Miranda K. Foggie, Policy Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit, and Susan Ryan, Policy Project Manager, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.)