

TO: Local Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Linda LeClair, Director
Bureau of Medicaid Eligibility Operations & Family Health Plus,
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations

SUBJECT: Medicaid Long-Term Care Eligibility Changes Videoconference

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Local District Liaison
Upstate (518) 474-8887 NYC (212) 417-4500

As a result of the enactment of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 and Chapter 109 of the Laws of 2006, a number of changes are being made to the current Medicaid eligibility rules for long-term care services.

This GIS advises LDSS of the upcoming videoconference regarding Medicaid long-term care eligibility changes. The videoconference, "*The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005: Effects on Medicaid Long-Term Care Eligibility*", will take place on Thursday, August 17th, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Local district Medicaid directors and their staff, particularly workers involved in determining eligibility for long-term care cases, are encouraged to watch and participate as needed.

The videoconference will provide viewers with information regarding long-term care eligibility changes and how they affect practices in the Medicaid program. Topics of discussion will include:

- Transfer of assets
 - Look-back period
 - Financial eligibility
 - Multiple transfers
 - Penalty period begin date
 - Undue hardship
 - Annuities
 - Life estate interest
 - Loans, promissory notes, mortgages
- Substantial home equity interest
- Continuing care retirement and life care community contracts

Eileen Brennan and Kristen Farina, Chronic Care Analysts with the State University of New York (SUNY) Research Foundation's Center for Development of Human Services, and Wendy Butz of the Office of Medicaid Management will be the videoconference presenters.

In advance of the videoconference, please direct any questions or areas you would like clarified to Kristen Farina at kxfl1@health.state.ny.us, or fax to (518) 473-0601. A separate fax number will be provided during the videoconference for questions that arise during the presentation.