

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Brian J. Wing, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Medicaid Management

SUBJECT: Additional Special Medical-Vocational Profile for the Medicaid Disability Manual

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Local District Support Unit:
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The purpose of this GIS message is to inform local districts of an important addition to the Official Policy section of the Medicaid Disability Manual. Section II D 2 h, Special Medical-Vocational Profiles, has been amended to include an additional profile entitled "Lifetime Commitment" which provides for a finding of disabled for persons who:

- Are not working at SGA level, and
- Have a lifetime commitment (30 years or more) to a field of work that is unskilled, or is skilled or semi-skilled but with no transferable skills, and
- Can no longer perform this past work because of a severe impairment(s), and
- Are closely approaching retirement age (age 60 or older), and
- Have no more than a limited education.

Local districts with their own disability review team should consider this profile before referring to Medical-Vocational guidelines at Step 5 of the Adult Sequential Evaluation (see page 17 of the Medicaid Disability Manual).

The online Medicaid Disability Manual has been updated to include the additional profile. (See the attachment to this GIS for the language that has been added.) The Disability Manual may be accessed on the DOH web site at: http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/reference/index.htm.

If you have any questions regarding this message, please contact Pat Galvin or Judy White at (518)473-5330.