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Joseph Gallant
Secretary
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Field Operations Memo 97- 37
July 18, 1997

To: Local Office Staff
From: Joyce Sampson, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations
Re: Disability Determinations for Recipients of Category 7 (MA/DA),
Applying for or Receiving TAFDC or EAEDC

Purpose

Recipients of Category 7 (MA/DA) no longer automatically qualify as disabled when applying for or receiving TAFDC or EAEDC and must have a disability determination completed by the Disability Review Unit (DRU). Procedurally, however, certain of these applicants or recipients will *not* be required to have a disability determination completed.

This memo explains when a disability determination is required of recipients of Category 7 applying for or receiving TAFDC or EAEDC, and what procedures local office staff must follow in having a disability determination completed.

**Checking
MMIS**

Check the Eligibility Data screen on MMIS to determine if the applicant or recipient has a Category 7 case on file *and/or a MassHealth Category 42 or 43*. (Refer to Field Operations Memo 97-35 for MassHealth changes and categories implemented on July 1, 1997.) If the screen shows a Category 7 and/or a Category 42 or 43 case on file in an open status, follow the directions below to determine if a disability determination has been completed by the DRU (United HealthCare).

**Local Office
Actions**

When a person who has a Category 7 on file is applying for or receiving TAFDC or EAEDC and claims to be disabled, the local office worker must call the DRU to determine if the DRU has ever completed a disability determination for the applicant or recipient. The number to call is **1-800-851-2681**. *Note: Verifying disability status is the only situation where the worker may contact the DRU directly. All other contacts must be made by the DRU liaison.*

**Local Office
Actions
(continued)**

The worker must annotate the case record with the information obtained from the DRU, including whether or not a disability determination has been completed, the name of the DRU person contacted, the date contacted and the telephone number for confirmation, if different from the number provided in the preceding paragraph.

- 1) If the DRU has completed a disability determination and found the applicant or recipient to be disabled, obtain the duration date.
 - a) If the disability duration *has not* expired, the applicant or recipient is considered to be disabled under the TAFDC and EAEDC programs until the duration expires. If the duration expires in less than one year, enter the appropriate code for the month of expiration in block 40 of the PID (EP Code). If the duration is greater than one year, the applicant or recipient will be exempt from the automatic mailing process at this time. For TAFDC, enter *S* as the EP Code; for EAEDC, enter *Z* as the EP Code. (Note: For MassHealth programs, the DRU can assign a duration to last up to seven years.)
 - b) If the disability duration *has* expired, the applicant must have a disability determination completed under the TAFDC or EAEDC program, whichever is applicable.
- 2) If the DRU has completed a disability determination and found the recipient *not* to be disabled, the applicant or recipient must have a disability determination completed under the TAFDC or EAEDC program, whichever is applicable.
- 3) If the DRU has *not* completed a disability determination, the local office worker must submit the following form(s) to the DRU in the usual manner so that a disability determination can be completed.

For TAFDC, the local office worker must send the DRU:

- *a current TAFDC Disability Supplement.*

For EAEDC, the local office worker must send the DRU:

- *a current Medical Report and*
- *a current EAEDC Disability Supplement.*

Questions

If you have any questions, have your Hotline Designee call the Policy Hotline at (617) 348-8478.

Attachment A

Coverage Type	Citizenship/ Immigration Status	Categorical Eligibility	MMIS Category	
			Old	New
Standard	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	Pregnant women	06	40
		Children under 1	06,08	40
		Children 1 thru 17	06,08	40
		Parents of children under 18	06	40
		Disabled Adults 18 thru 64 with Medicare	07	43
		Disabled Adults 18 thru 64 without Medicare	07	42
Prenatal	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	Pregnant Women	81	80
Basic	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	Adults, age 18 thru 64, who have been unemployed for one year or more.	NA	61
		EAEDC recipients (generally disabled adults who are pending SSI determination or whose disability does not meet SSI criteria		
Buy-In	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	Adults, age 18 thru 64, who have been unemployed more than one year and have private health insurance	NA	70

Attachment A

Buy-in	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	EAEDC recipients (generally unemployable adults aged 18 thru 64 pending SSI determination or whose disability does not meet SSI criteria)	NA	70
CommonHealth	Citizens/ Qualified Aliens	Disabled Children under 18	06	50
		Disabled adults working 40 hours or more per month	06	52
		Disabled non- working adults or disabled adults working less than 40 hours per month	NA	53
Limited	Nonqualified Aliens Certain Qualified Aliens	Pregnant Women	06	37
		Children under 1	06	37
		Children 1 thru 17	06	37
		Parents of children under 18	06	37
		Disabled Adults 18 thru 64	07	38