
	<b>MENTAL RETARDATION BULLETIN</b> COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE	
	<b>SUBJECT</b>  Medicaid Waiver for Infants, Toddlers and Families Renewal	<b>BY</b>   <b>Nancy R. Thaler</b> Deputy Secretary for Mental Retardation
<b>NUMBER:</b>	00-02-01	
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	January 29, 2002	
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	July 1, 2001	

**SCOPE:**

County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Administrators

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to transmit the Department's approved Infants, Toddlers and Families Medicaid Waiver renewal application, effective July 1, 2001.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Department received initial Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval for the Medicaid Waiver for Infants, Toddlers and Families on October 16, 1997. Implementation was postponed until July 1, 1998 in accordance with the CMS' August 13, 1998 approval of a waiver amendment. This amendment resulted in a change in the effective date of this waiver to the three-year period beginning July 1, 1998.

Following the initial three years of service operation, Home and Community Based Waiver services provided under section 1915C of the Social Security Act are approved by the CMS for five-year renewal periods. Medicaid Waiver renewals are based on satisfactory provision of waiver services, meeting state assurances, and a written application that describes how services will be provided during the renewal period.

**INFORMATION:**

CMS approved the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare's application for a five-year renewal of its Medicaid Waiver for Infants, Toddlers and Families. The renewal period, based on CMS' [attached letter to Secretary Feather O. Houston](#), is from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2006. The [attached waiver application](#) establishes the framework for the provision of waiver services during the renewal period.

The only changes to the Medicaid Waiver for Infants, Toddlers and Families are minor post-eligibility changes. These changes, which are reflected on pages 22-24 of this bulletin, are consistent with the manner in which financial eligibility is determined. No change in current practices is required.

Specific County responsibilities related to the provision of Medicaid Waiver Services for Infants, Toddlers and Families are stipulated in the Supplemental Grant Agreement (SGA) between County MH/MR Programs and the Department. The County's current SGA (MR Bulletin 00-98-05, issued July 1, 1998) will continue to be in effect until superceded by a new grant agreement.

Any future amendments to this waiver application will be distributed under the Mental Retardation Bulletin format, once the amendment receives CMS approval. County MH/MR Programs will be responsible for instituting changes necessitated by such amendments based on instructions provided by the Department.

All County MH/MR Programs participating in the waiver are expected to retain a copy of the approved waiver application, and any future amendments for the duration of the five-year renewal period.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

Appropriate Regional Program Managers