

April 21, 2009

Ms. Elizabeth A. Johnson
Commissioner, Department for Medicaid Services
Cabinet for Health and Family Services
State of Kentucky
275 E. Main Street, 6W-A
Frankfort, KY 40621

Dear Ms. Johnson:

We are pleased to inform you that Kentucky's tenth Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted on December 10, 2008, with additional information submitted on March 4, 2009, has been approved.

This SPA permits the State to streamline its enrollment process by removing the requirement for a face-to-face interview for its CHIP. The applicant may now apply through a mail-in application, and there are many agencies available to assist families in determining what information is needed. The applications can be downloaded from the CHIP Web site, are available by calling a toll-free number, or may be obtained at a variety of localities throughout the State including the local Department of Community Based Service Office, health departments, physician offices, primary care centers, and hospitals. The SPA also adds a 30-day grace period for an enrollee to return the eligibility recertification form. This amendment has a retroactive effective date of November 1, 2008.

Your title XXI project officer is Ms. Terri Murphy. She is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related issues. Ms. Murphy's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Mail Stop S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-4467
Facsimile: (410) 786-5882
E-mail: Terri.Murphy@cms.hhs.gov

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Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Ms. Murphy and to Mr. James Scott, Associate Regional Administrator, in our Kansas City Regional Office. Mr. Scott's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations
Richard Bolling Federal Building
601 East 12th Street, Room 227
Kansas City, MO 64106

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Dianne Heffron, Acting Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, at (410) 786-5647.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

/s/

Charlene Frizzera
Acting Administrator

cc:
Mr. James Scott, ARA, Region VII