

Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification

May 5, 2011

Judith Arnold
Director, Division of Coverage & Enrollment
Office of Health Insurance Programs
State of New York Department of Health
Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237-0004

Dear Ms. Arnold:

Your sixteenth title XXI Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State plan amendment (SPA) submitted on March 21, 2011, has been approved. This SPA implements an electronic data match with the Social Security Administration (SSA) in order to fulfill the citizenship documentation requirements of Section 211 of the Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) and also incorporates revisions to the template for coverage of lawfully residing children.

The implementation of the SSA data match option has a retroactive effective date of October 1, 2010, and the revisions related to coverage of lawfully residing children have a retroactive effective date of April 1, 2010.

The State had previously received approval for coverage of lawfully residing children under SPA #13, with a retroactive effective date of April 1, 2009. After the approval of SPA #13, on July 1, 2010, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued further guidance and a template included groups eligible for coverage under section 214 that were not previously included. In response to a request from CMS, New York submitted this SPA in order to include the groups in the July 1, 2010 template. The State has confirmed that it always intended its State Plan to conform with the direction of the July 1, 2010 guidance.

Your title XXI project officer is Mr. Robert Nelb. He is available to answer questions concerning this amendment and other CHIP-related issues. Mr. Nelb's contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid, CHIP and Survey & Certification
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Telephone: (410) 786-1055
Facsimile: (410) 786-8534
E-mail: robert.nelb@cms.hhs.gov

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Mr. Nelb and to Mr. Michael Melendez, Acting Associate Regional Administrator in our New York Regional Office. Mr. Melendez's address is:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Room 37-100 North
New York, NY 10278

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Victoria Wachino, Director, Family and Children's Health Programs Group at (410) 786-5647.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Cindy Mann
Director

cc: Mr. Michael Melendez, Associate Regional Administrator, Region II