Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 61 Forsyth St., Suite 4T20 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909



December 12, 2011

Mr. R. Bob Mullins, Jr., MD Commissioner Alabama Medicaid Agency 501 Dexter Avenue Post Office Box 5624 Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5624

Attention: Stephanie Lindsey

Re: Alabama Title XIX State Plan Amendment, Transmittal #11-018

Dear Dr. Mullins:

We reviewed the proposed amendment to the Alabama Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) AL 11-018 that was received in the Regional Office on September 15, 2011. The amendment allows the Alabama Medicaid Agency to define services that an optometrist is legally authorized to perform as physicians' services under the State plan and are reimbursed whether furnished by a physician or an optometrist. The plan pages amended are Attachments 3.1-A page 2.5, Attachment 3.1-A page 2.5a, Attachment 3.1-A page 3, Attachment 3.1-A page 3.6, Attachment 4.19-B page 2a and Preprint page 27 of the Alabama State Plan.

Based on the information provided, we are now ready to approve the Medicaid State Plan Amendment AL 11-018. This SPA was approved on December 7, 2011. The effective date of this amendment is October 1, 2011. We are enclosing the approved form HCFA-179 and plan pages.

If you have any questions or need any further assistance, please contact Maria Drake at (404) 562-3697.

Sincerely,

Jackie Blag Jackie Glaze

Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations