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State/Territory Name: Florida

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 12-005

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

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



May 31, 2012

Justin M. Senior
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop 8
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: Florida Title XIX State Plan Amendment, Transmittal #12-005

Dear Mr. Senior:

We have reviewed the proposed Florida State plan amendment (SPA) 12-005, which was submitted to the Atlanta Regional Office on March 27, 2012. This amendment is for implementation of an electronic Asset Verification System (AVS) that will verify the assets of blind, aged or disabled applicants and recipients of Medicaid as required by Section 1940 of the Social Security Act. Florida is required to implement the system by September 30, 2012.

Based on the information provided, the Medicaid State plan amendment FL 12-005 was approved on May 30, 2012. The signed CMS-179 and the approved plan pages are enclosed. The effective date of this amendment is January 1, 2012.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Rita Nimmons at (404) 562-7415 or Rita.Nimmons@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Enclosures

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: FLORIDA

ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

- 1940(a)
of the Act
1. The agency will provide for the verification of assets for purposes of determining or redetermining Medicaid eligibility for aged, blind and disabled Medicaid applicants and recipients using an Asset Verification System (AVS) that meets the following minimum requirements.
 - A. The request and response system must be electronic:
 - (1) Verification inquiries must be sent electronically via the internet or similar means from the agency to the financial institution (FI).
 - (2) The system cannot be based on mailing paper-based requests.
 - (3) The system must have the capability to accept responses electronically.
 - B. The system must be secure, based on a recognized industry standard of security (e.g., as defined by the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology, or NIST).
 - C. The system must establish and maintain a database of FIs that participate in the agency's AVS.
 - D. Verification requests also must be sent to FIs other than those identified by applicants and recipients, based on some logic such as geographic proximity to the applicant's home address, or other reasonable factors whenever the agency determines that such requests are needed to determine or redetermine the individual's eligibility.
 - E. The verification requests must include a request for information on both open and closed accounts, going back up to 5 years as determined by the State.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State: FLORIDA

ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

2. System Development

A. The agency itself will develop an AVS.

In 3 below, provide any additional information the agency wants to include.

B. The agency will hire a contractor to develop an AVS.

In 3 below provide any additional information the agency wants to include.

C. The agency will be joining a consortium to develop an AVS.

In 3 below, identify the States participating in the consortium. Also, provide any other information the agency wants to include pertaining to how the consortium will implement the AVS requirements.

D. The agency already has a system in place that meets the requirements for an acceptable AVS.

In 3 below, describe how the existing system meets the requirements in Section 1.

E. Other alternative not included in A. - D. above.

In 3 below, describe this alternative approach and how it will meet the requirements in Section 1.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

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ASSET VERIFICATION SYSTEM

3. Provide the AVS implementation information requested for the implementation approach checked in Section 2, and any other information the agency may want to include.

Florida has prepared an ITN and will be reviewing bids during the months of April and May, 2012. The vendor will be required to implement the AVS system as of October 1, 2012.

The vendor selected will have a system that meets the requirements of Supplement 16 to Attachment 2.6-A, page 1.