

Region III/Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations

SEP 28 2010

John G. Folkemer
Deputy Secretary
Health Care Financing
MD Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 West Preston Street, Suite 525
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Folkemer:

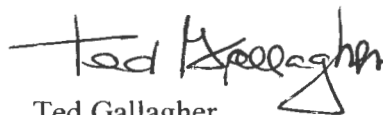
Enclosed is a copy of the approved State Plan Amendment (SPA), Transmittal Number 10-09. This SPA implements Express Lane Eligibility for children, in which the Maryland Comptroller will identify through annual State income tax returns those families who are below 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level and who indicate that their children do not have health insurance coverage. These families will initially receive simplified applications and eventually will have eligibility for Medicaid and the Maryland Children's Health Program determined through this process.

We understand from our review of this SPA that using only a finding of residency is a first step towards implementing a more robust Express Lane Eligibility process that will eventually utilize a more efficient method of enrollment using income findings through an Interagency Agreement with the Maryland Comptroller. We will continue to work with your staff to ensure that Maryland can realize a more efficient Express Lane Eligibility process that can provide health care to its eligible but not enrolled children.

The effective date for this amendment is April 1, 2010. The signed CMS Form 179 and the approved State Plan pages are enclosed.

If you have questions about this SPA, please contact Rosemary Feild at 215-861-4278.

Sincerely,



Ted Gallagher
Associate Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Tricia Roddy
Debbie Ruppert
Lisa Fassett