CHANGE NO: 02-07

Manual: State/County Special Assistance for Adults Program

Change No: 02-07

To: County Directors of Social Services

Effective: July 1, 2007

Content of Change

Based on amendments to the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the category of individuals excluded from citizenship and identity documentation requirements is expanded to include individuals receiving Social Security benefits on the basis of a disability (SSDI). Also, clarification of the Lawful Permanent Residence (LPR) exemption was initially incorrectly omitted from policy. This has been corrected. This policy is retroactive to the implementation date of September 1, 2006.

A. Exemptions to Providing Proof of Citizenship and Identity

- 1. Applicant/recipients declaring to be citizens or nationals of the United States receiving Social Security benefits on the basis of a disability (SSDI) are exempt from citizenship and identity documentation requirements.
- 2. Applicant/recipients who are Lawful Permanent Residence (LPR) and have previously provided this documentation are exempt from providing further documentation of their status.

B. Report

Denials or terminations have been identified by DMA and a report was provided in March 2007 to each Medicaid Program Representative (MPR). DAAS reviewed the DMA report and found only two SA cases denied or terminated under these citizenship/identity codes. The appropriate corrections have been made in these cases.

C. Documentation

When documenting SSDI and LPR hierarchy codes in EIS for Citizenship/Identity (C/I), use code "50".

D. County Assistance in Obtaining Citizenship Documentation

If citizenship evidence is not on file or cannot be obtained by the applicant/recipient, the county must assist the applicant/recipient in acquiring the documents. A request for help from the applicant/recipient is not required and must not delay the county's assistance in obtaining citizenship documentation needed to process the application/redetermination.

Placing the application on pending status for 6 months <u>is required</u> when all other eligibility requirements are met and the applicant is making a good faith effort to provide the documentation or the information has been requested from a third party source.

E. Notice of Retroactive Implementation: Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and SSDI Recipients.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 citizenship changes for Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) and SSDI recipients are required to be retroactive to our initial implementation date of September 1, 2006. It will be necessary to re-open any cases involving these applicants/recipients when denied or terminated. As noted, only two cases were identified up in this category for SA. Those cases have been corrected.

II. Effective date and Implementation

This policy is effective July 1, 2007. Begin applying this policy effective July 1, 2007, to all applications pending or dated on or after the effective date. Begin applying this policy to redeterminations pending or started, on or after July 1, 2007.

III. Maintenance of manual

The following manual sections are reissued to reflect the mandated requirements:

SA-3240 - Citizenship and Identity.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Adult Services Program Representative, or either Brenda Porter, SA Program Coordinator, or Chris Urso, SA Program Administrator, at 919-733-3818.

Sincerely,

Suzanne P. Merrill, Chief Adult Services Section

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SPM/bfp