

# **DHB ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 09-21, DEFERRED ENFORCED DEPARTURE FOR HONG KONG RESIDENTS**

**DATE:** November 12, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Deferred Enforced Departure for Hong Kong Residents

**DISTRIBUTION:** County Departments of Social Services  
Medicaid Supervisors  
Medicaid Eligibility Staff

## **I. BACKGROUND**

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has issued a notice regarding the President's memorandum, dated August 5, 2021, that provides Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for Hong Kong residents. DED has been granted to these individuals through February 5, 2023. This status allows eligible individuals to remain lawfully in the U.S. for a limited, specified period and to receive employment authorization.

## **POLICY PROCEDURES**

### **A. Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) Status**

DED is a status very similar to Temporary Protected Status (TPS). DED is granted to non-citizens from particular countries by presidential proclamation or other executive action. DED status allows eligible persons to remain lawfully in the U.S. for a limited, specified period and to receive employment authorization. Persons granted DED are **lawfully present non-citizens**

Lawfully present individuals in the U.S. may be granted DED. Lawfully present individuals are subject to the five-year bar unless they are a pregnant woman or child under age 19. When the caseworker determines that the five-year bar has not been met by the immigrant, take the following actions:

1. Evaluate for full Medicaid for pregnant women and for children under age 19.
2. All others should be evaluated for emergency services.

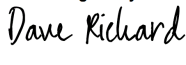
### **B. Deferred Enforced Departure (DED)**

1. DED for Hong Kong residents applies only to certain eligible Hong Kong residents who were present in the U. S. **as of August 5, 2021.**
2. They will have one of the following types of documentation of their immigration status:
  - Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) passport
  - British National Overseas passport
  - British Overseas Citizen passport
  - Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card
  - HKSAR Document of Identity for Visa Purposes
  - DED Employment Authorization (EAD) with a category code of A11
3. The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program will confirm the current immigration status of these individuals.

## **II. IMPLEMENTATION**

This policy is effective upon receipt.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your [Medicaid Operational Support Team representative](#).

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Dave Richard  
Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid