

ATTACHMENT L

Consumer Benefits Assistance Requirements

The LIDDA shall:

- A. Ensure at least one staff member receives training that is provided semi-annually through the Texas Council's Consumer Benefits Organization;
- B. Identify a staff member designated by the LIDDA to serve as a liaison to the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitation Services (DARS) Disability Determination Services division;
- C. Annually screen all current consumers to determine their potential eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), and Medicaid;
- D. Screen all new consumers found eligible for services to determine their potential eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), and Medicaid;
- E. Ensure a staff member who has received the training required in Section A of this Attachment reviews all cases screened as having low eligibility potential to determine the screening's accuracy;
- F. Ensure all cases reviewed and determined to have moderate to high eligibility potential for Medicaid, SSDI, and SSI will be assisted with the benefits applications;
- G. Assist all consumers who have been denied SSI or SSDI benefits to appeal their denial of benefits, from the initial appeal (Reconsideration) level to the second level (Administrative Hearing);
- H. Ensure the LIDDA's billing staff are notified of consumers' benefits approval and application dates, to allow completion of retroactive billing within 90 days for allowable Medicaid services from the date of the application. The Social Security Administration (SSA) will contact the consumer's designated representative; and
- I. Identify staffing that is adequate to ensure sufficient focus and capacity to provide benefits assistance in accordance with these requirements. Referral to contractors paid on contingency fees for benefits assistance does not meet the requirements of this Section.