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**Date:** October 10, 2013 **MEPD Policy Bulletin Number: 14-01**

**To:** Eligibility Services – Regional Directors for MEPD  
Regional Attorneys  
Hearings Officers

**From:** Todd Byrnes  
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**Subject:** Closure of Supplemental Security Income Denied Children’s Program – Type  
Program 19 and Interim Supplemental Security Income Denied Child – Type of  
Assistance 01

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The information in this bulletin is for **MEPD**. If you have any questions regarding the policy, follow regional procedures. The information in this bulletin is available at the following websites:

- Family Services - <http://ofs.hhsc.state.tx.us/mepd/mepd-bulletins.aspx> , and
- MEPD Handbook - [http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/mepd\\_policy/index.htm](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/mepd_policy/index.htm).

## **Background**

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Denied Children’s program and the Interim SSI Denied Child program were created to continue Medicaid for certain children who were receiving SSI August 22, 1996. These programs are being closed.

## **Policy/Procedure**

This closure will take place in two phases: 1) immediate stop of new additions of ME - Interim SSI Denied Child (TA01) and ME - SSI Denied Children (TP19); and 2) the phase out of the active eligibility determination groups (EDGs).

Phase one prevents new additions to ME - SSI Interim Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children programs through a Production Service Request (PSR) initiated in May 2013 and remains in effect until the types of assistance are retired in April 2014. The PSR involves the Texas Integrated Eligibility and Redesign System (TIERS) and the interface the agency receives

reporting current SSI denials from the Social Security Administration. Notices are not generated as a result of the ME-SSI EDG not being created and no action is needed by staff. A case comment is generated when the ME-SSI EDG is not created to document the reason and date of denial.

Phase two will occur in four parts. Another PSR is currently in development to assist in this phase. This PSR also provides an exception list of EDGs that do not transfer. The majority of the transactions are to be handled by, but not limited to the Centralized Benefits Services (CBS) unit.

Special notices were created for the transfer and denial purposes. Copies of these notices are attached to this bulletin.

The four parts of phase two are:

1. Extending the redetermination periods of the ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children EDGs
  2. Program Transfers,
  3. Denials, and
  4. Conclusion of program
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1. Extending the redetermination periods of the ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children EDGs:

All ME - SSI Denied Children EDGs are in approved ongoing mode that have not had a redetermination packet sent in the last 90 days from September 24, 2013 will have the redetermination due date bumped to 3/31/2014. This is regardless if the EDG can be transferred or denied.

## 2. Program Transfers

If there is a sibling on a TW Medicaid program some ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children recipients can be transferred to TW Medicaid programs. Those individuals transferred to the TW Medicaid program do not have to reapply. The transfer notices will be mailed as soon as the PSR is finalized.

The PSR will handle the transfer. If the individual is eligible, they will be transferred accordingly and a TF0001 will be sent. If the individual is not eligible, the PSR will put them back on the ME - Interim SSI Denied Child or ME - SSI Denied Children program they were originally receiving through December 31, 2013.

The PSR will create an exception list for cases that do not successfully transfer. If there is a Data Collection exception, a list is provided to CBS staff for resolution and completion of the program

transfer. If CBS staff has any issues, their supervisor will contact MEPD Policy Support for assistance.

### 3. Denials

If there is not an eligible sibling on a TW Medicaid program, the ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children program recipient will be denied effective December 31, 2013. Recipients were mailed a denial notice and Form H1014 Application Information for Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Children's Medicaid, and CHIP Perinatal Coverage on September 16, 2013.

#### CBS and MEPD Processing

These applications will be returned to the CBS unit directly for processing. Written instructions will be provided to the CBS staff for certain TIERS procedures so that eligibility can be processed according to TW-CMA Medicaid policy. The CBS unit will handle processing of these applications according to TW policy timeframes.

If the individual is eligible, they will be certified accordingly and FormTF0001 will be sent. If the individual is not eligible, the CBS unit denies the TW application and notifies the designated MEPD eligibility specialist. The MEPD designee will ensure continued ME - Interim SSI Denied Child or ME - SSI Denied Children program benefits they were originally on through December 31, 2013.

### 4. Conclusion of program

Through the PSR, any ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children EDGs still remaining as of December 11, 2013 will be set to be denied as of December 31, 2013. No TF0001 will be sent as they were provided the special denial notices about the program ending.

#### **Automation**

In April 2014, both ME - Interim SSI Denied Child and ME - SSI Denied Children programs will be retired via Service Request # 382996 Retirement of SSI Denied Children's Program.

#### **Handbook**

MEPD Handbook Chapter A, Section 2350 and Chapter G, Sections 5140 – 5141, will be updated with the December 2013 revision.

**Training**

MEPD New Hire Training and any Continued Job Skills Training will be updated to reflect the termination of the SSI Denied Children's Programs.

**Effective Date**

This is effective October 5, 2013.

Attachments: 4