

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

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102.05.12 Criteria for Approval of Emergency Services

Aliens who are not entitled to full Medicaid benefits (refer to Section 102.05.04) may be eligible for emergency services only, if the following conditions exist:

- All other eligibility requirements are met except satisfactory immigration status;
- Care and services needed are not related to an organ transplant procedure or routine prenatal or postpartum care;
- The alien has, after sudden onset, a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in:
 - Placing the patient's health in serious jeopardy,
 - Serious impairment to bodily functions,
 - Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part, or
 - Is for labor and delivery

NOTE: The services provided in this situation must relate to the injury, illness, or delivery causing the emergency. Services that are not directly related to the injury, illness, or delivery are not compensated by Medicaid. Once the medical condition is stabilized, even if it remains serious or results in death, it is no longer an emergency.

Procedures for Processing Eligibility for Emergency Medicaid Services

At the point of application, the Medicaid eligibility worker must explain to the applicant, who is a non-qualified alien or a qualified alien subject to 5-year disqualification, that if all applicable program eligibility requirements are met, Medicaid may reimburse for emergency services only (including labor and delivery) after the services have been received.

Determining Eligibility for Emergency Medicaid Services

When determining eligibility for Medicaid coverage for treatment of an emergency medical condition only, the specialist will obtain information to

- (1) Establish eligibility based on emergency services criteria, such as a copy of the hospital bill or other documentation from the hospital indicating treatment or services received, dates of service and the diagnosis for the individual's condition and

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Procedures for Processing Eligibility for Emergency Medicaid Services (Continued)

- (2) Establish eligibility on technical factors, except citizenship, alien status and enumeration, and financial factors.

Not Financially Eligible

If the alien is not financially eligible, the application will be denied by the specialist.

Applicant Appears Eligible for Emergency Medicaid Services

If the specialist determines the individual appears eligible for emergency services, the case will be referred to state office for a final review and decision. Pertinent material from the case record, including a copy of the application, a budget and medical documentation, will be sent to state office.

State Office Responsibilities

The state office worker will make the final determination of whether the individual is categorically eligible and whether the service is an emergency. If Emergency Medicaid services are approved, the state office worker is responsible for notification and input of eligibility data.

102.05.13 BUDGETING FOR CITIZEN CHILDREN OF NON-QUALIFIED ALIEN(S)

Children born in the United States to parent(s), who is a non-qualified alien as discussed in Section 102.05.04, may be eligible for full Medicaid. To determine eligibility, count the needs and income, less disregards, of the parent(s) as well as any siblings the parent wants to include in the application. The parent(s) and any sibling(s) who are non-qualified aliens cannot be eligible for full Medicaid benefits; however, they may be assessed for Emergency Medicaid Services. A child born to a mother eligible for emergency services for labor and delivery is deemed eligible for Medicaid through the month of the child's first birthday, provided the child remains a member of the mother's household and a resident of the state.

When the child reaches the age of one, a review is required. Verifications postponed during the deemed eligible child's first year must be provided. To determine eligibility after the deemed period, count the needs and income, less disregards, of the parent(s) as well as any siblings the parent wants to include in the application. The parent(s) and any sibling(s) who are non-qualified aliens cannot be eligible for full Medicaid benefits; however, they may be assessed for Emergency Medicaid Services.