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Governor

**NEW YORK STATE**  
**OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE**  
40 NORTH PEARL STREET  
ALBANY, NY 12243-0001

**Brian J. Wing**  
Commissioner

## Informational Letter

### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	03 INF 23
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office:</b>	Division of Temporary Assistance
<b>Date:</b>	May 27, 2003
<b>Subject:</b>	LDSS-4579: "Alien Eligibility Desk Aid" (Rev.4/03)
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Temporary Assistance Staff Food Stamp Benefits Staff Medical Assistance Directors Employment Coordinators WMS Coordinators Staff Development Coordinators
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	Forms Questions: Bob Gullie 1-800-343-8859, Extension 4-6055 Program Questions: Food Stamp Policy - Eastern Region - Extension 3-1469 Temporary Assistance Policy - Central Region - Extension 4-9344 Medicaid Policy - Bureau of Local District Support: Upstate: 518-474-8216 NYC: 212-268-6855
<b>Attachments:</b>	Attachment - LDSS-4579: "Alien Eligibility Desk Aid" (Rev.4/03)
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
97 ADM-23 97 ADM-25 98 INF-5		349	P.L. 107-171		

### Section 2

#### I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter is to introduce the recently revised LDSS-4579: "Alien Eligibility Desk Aid" (Rev.4/03).

## **II. Background**

The LDSS-4579: "Alien Eligibility Desk Aid" was originally developed to assist local district staff in identifying appropriate alien status as established under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act and to relate that status to individuals' eligibility for Temporary Assistance, Food Stamp Benefits and/or Medical Assistance.

This Desk Aid contains alien status program eligibility requirements established under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, the New York State Welfare Reform Act of 1997, the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act (AREERA) of 1998, and the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002.

With the enactment of the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002, significant numbers of immigrants will again be eligible for food stamp benefits including many legal immigrants arriving in the United States after 1996. In October 2002, food stamp eligibility was restored to immigrants in qualified status receiving certain disability benefits. In April 2003, aliens who have qualified status for five years regained eligibility. In October 2003, eligibility is restored to qualified immigrant children without a waiting period.

## **III. Program Implications**

The Desk Aid should assist districts to administer the Temporary Assistance, Medical Assistance and Food Stamp programs.

## **IV. Forms Information**

As always, the desk guide will be printed on green cardstock and should be delivered to the Albany and NYC/HRA Warehouses sometime in July 2003. Local districts **will** automatically receive an initial supply of this revised form.

Any future requests for additional supplies of the 4/03 version of LDSS-4579 should be submitted on OTDA-876 (Rev.6/98): "Request For Forms or Publications" form, and should be sent to:

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance  
Document Services  
P.O. Box 1990  
Albany, New York 12201

Questions concerning ordering forms should be directed to Document Services at 1-800-343-8859, ext. 4-9522.

### **Issued By**

**Name: Patricia A. Stevens**

**Title: Deputy Commissioner**

**Division/Office: Division of Temporary Assistance**