

**TO:** Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

**FROM:** Judith Arnold, Director  
Division of Coverage and Enrollment

**SUBJECT:** New Restriction/Exception Code 23 Replaces State/Federal Charge Code for OMH HCBS Waiver for Children and Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbance

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**CONTACT PERSONS:** Local District Liaison  
Upstate (518)474-8887 NYC (212)417-4500

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is to advise local districts of a change in the way that local share responsibility is removed/reinstated when children are enrolled/disenrolled from the Office of Mental Health (OMH) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver for Children and Adolescents with Serious Emotional Disturbance.

Since the waiver's inception in 1996, local shares have been removed/reinstated through use of the State/Federal (S/F) Charge Code in WMS; i.e., code 23 Upstate, and code 37 in New York City. Local district staff would add the S/F Code when advised by OMH of a child's enrollment, and remove it when advised of his/her disenrollment.

Effective immediately, local share for OMH HCBS Waiver children will be removed/reinstated through use of a new Restriction/Exception (R/E) Code 23. Both Upstate and New York City WMS will use the new R/E code 23.

OMH staff will add code 23 to the R/E subsystem whenever a child is admitted to the waiver and end date it when the child is discharged. Although OMH will continue to notify districts when a child is enrolled or disenrolled from the waiver, districts, including New York City, will no longer be required to enter or remove State/Federal Charge Codes 23/37, nor will districts be required to enter the R/E code.

R/E Code 23 has been loaded on all existing OMH Waiver cases via an automatic file load in both WMS systems. In the Upstate cases only, the S/F Charge Code was automatically removed for any case where R/E Code 23 was added. However, S/F Charge Code 37 was not automatically removed on cases in NYC WMS. OMH continues to work with NYC staff to identify and remove the S/F Charge Code.

Districts may direct questions specific to the data entry of R/E Code 23 to Stephanie Wollman, OMH, at 518-473-8234. Questions regarding the Medicaid eligibility process for OMH Waiver children should be directed to your Local District Support liaison.