

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

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

**SUBJECT:** USCIS.gov "E-Notification Capability"

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately

**CONTACT PERSON:** Local District Support Unit  
Upstate (518)474-8887 NYC (212)417-4500

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is two-fold: 1) to inform local departments of social services of the improved USCIS.gov public website and E-Notification capability; and 2) to advise local district staff of the treatment of E-Notification for purposes of establishing immigration status for Medicaid benefits.

USCIS has improved service to its customers by implementing its E-Notification initiative for immigration applications and petitions filed at certain facilities. Consumers, who file USCIS applications and/or petitions at one of these facilities, now have the option to receive an e-mail and/or text message informing them that USCIS has accepted their application or petition.

How does the E-Notification impact Medicaid eligibility?

**The E-Notification does not constitute official notice of application acceptance; the consumer will receive an official notice of application acceptance (I-797) through the U.S. Postal Service.**

**USCIS states the e-mail or text message does not grant any type of immigration status or benefit. Therefore, local district staff are instructed not to accept a copy of the e-mail or text message as evidence that USCIS has granted the individual any immigration status or benefit. Receipt of the transmission cannot be used as supporting evidence of satisfactory immigration status for Medicaid benefits.**