

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, and Long Term Home Health Care Program Coordinators

FROM: Mark Kissinger, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Long Term Care

SUBJECT: Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) Waiver Extension

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Office of Long Term Care
Long Term Home Health Care Program
Doreen Sharp 518-474-5271
dxs04@health.state.ny.us

The purpose of this GIS is to advise LDSS staff that the State has obtained an additional 90 day extension from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to continue operating the current Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) 1915 (c) home and community based Medicaid waiver through June 29, 2010.

The Department also received CMS approval April 8, 2010 for a demonstration group in New York's 1115 Partnership Plan called the Home and Community Based Expansion Program (HCBS Expansion Program). This demonstration allows New York to continue the use of post eligibility spousal impoverishment rules for certain medically needy individuals enrolled in or applying for the LTHHCP and removes the major barrier to CMS approval of the LTHHCP waiver renewal application.

The Department continues to work with CMS on implementation and reporting requirements for this demonstration as well as integrating the demonstration specifications into the LTHHCP waiver renewal application. Instructions will be issued to LDSS staff in the near future related to LTHHCP participants in the HCBS Expansion Program.

During the period of operating the LTHHCP under the extension, district staff should continue to accept and process applications for enrollment in the LTHHCP waiver using the current eligibility criteria, services, and processes for the LTHHCP.

If you have questions related to the LTHHCP, please contact Doreen Sharpe at the telephone number listed above.