

STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

1450 WESTERN AVENUE  
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ABE LAVINE  
COMMISSIONER

**ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER**

Effective: Immediately  
TRANSMITTAL NO.: 75 ADM-59

TO: Commissioners of Social Services

DATE: June 23, 1975

SUBJECT: Emergency Assistance to Adults (EAA) -  
Continuation through March 31, 1976

SUGGESTED  
DISTRIBUTION: All Public Assistance Staff  
All Social Services Staff  
All Medical Assistance Staff

Chapter 198 of the Laws of 1975 signed by Governor Carey on June 10, 1975 provides statutory authority for the continuation of the Emergency Assistance to Adults (EAA) program through March 31, 1976, and expands the circumstances under which EAA may be provided.

MAJOR PROVISIONS

The major provisions of this legislation include:

- Continuation of the Emergency Assistance for Adults Program for a period ending March 31, 1976.
- Repeal of the provisions of the law which require that real or personal property valued at more than \$500, if readily convertible to cash, must be used to meet emergency assistance needs. Also repealed are provisions requiring the execution of deeds, liens or mortgages in the case of property which cannot be readily converted into cash.
- Repeal of current provisions of law which prohibit the granting of Emergency Assistance for the same need more than once in a twelve month period except upon special approval by social services officials.
- Authorizes local social services districts to station local social services employees at federal social security offices for the purpose of providing information and referral services for medical assistance and social services to the eligible aged, blind and disabled persons.

EXPANSION OF EAA PROGRAM

This legislation has expanded the provisions of the EAA program to include the following:

- Replacement or repair of clothing, furniture, food, fuel and shelter lost or rendered useless as a result of burglary, theft or vandalism providing such losses are reported to and appropriately verified by local officials before replacement or repair is authorized. [Previously granted by administrative action, see 74 ADM-175]

FILING REFERENCE

Dept. Reg.	Prev. Comm.
Part 397	74 ADM-6
	74 ADM-124
	74 ADM-174
	74 ADM-175

- Replacement of lost or mismanaged cash by a person who by reason of advanced age, illness, infirmity, mental weakness, physical handicap, intemperance, addiction to drugs, or other cause, has suffered substantial impairment of his ability to care for his property. Previously granted by administrative action, see 74 ADM-175/
- Payments to a secured party in whose favor there is a security interest on furniture or household equipment needed to make living accommodations habitable, in amounts not to exceed the cost of replacement.
- Household moving expenses when a change of residence will substantially reduce rent costs.
- Household expenses essential to maintaining a home when a person has been placed in a medical facility and is expected to remain there for less than one hundred eighty days (as opposed to one hundred twenty days at present). In such cases, the local social services official is required to determine, within forty-five days following placement in a medical facility, whether such person is expected to remain in the facility for less than six months. Payments for household maintenance shall not continue without such determination.
- Repair or replacement of safety equipment.

OTHER PROVISIONS

- Authority for local social services districts to issue Medicaid cards for SSI recipients to be valid for a period determined locally but not to exceed six months. Under current practice, Medicaid cards must be issued monthly.
- Requirement that social service officials, in appropriate cases, initiate special proceedings for the appointment of a conservator pursuant to section 77.03 of the Mental Hygiene Law.

These changes were effective immediately upon signature by Governor Carey on June 10, 1975.

Department Regulations are being amended to reflect the statutory changes. Additional instruction will be forthcoming.

  
Deputy Commissioner