



Department of Human Resources  
311 West Saratoga Street  
Baltimore MD 21201

**Family Investment Administration  
ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

**Control Number: 10-09**

**Effective Date: December 1, 2009**

**Issuance Date: October 30, 2009**

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT  
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF  
DIVISION OF ELIGIBILITY WAIVER SERVICES  
HEALTH OFFICERS, LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS  
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

**FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA  
JILL SPECTOR, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OES**

**RE: ACCELERATED CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY (ACE) - LDSS AND  
LHD PROCEDURES FOR PRIORITIZING AND ACCELERATING THE  
MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY PROCESS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN  
APPLYING TO MEDICAID**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICES**

**BACKGROUND**

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and the Department of Human Resources (DHR) have developed new procedures for prioritizing Medicaid applications for pregnant women. The procedures will be implemented to assist the State in meeting the Governor's initiative to decrease infant mortality in Maryland.

When pregnant women apply for Medicaid at either a Local Health Department (LHD) or a Local Department of Social Services (LDSS), their applications will be screened and the eligibility process will be accelerated. This will enable pregnant women to be enrolled quickly and to access prenatal care as soon as possible.

DHMH has written new procedures for Accelerated Certification of Eligibility (ACE) for both the LHDs and LDSS'. The revised manual is attached.

**INQUIRIES:**

Please direct Medical Assistance policy questions the DHMH Division of Eligibility Policy or MCHP policy questions to the MCHP Division, both at 410-767-1463 or 1-800-492-5231 (select option 2 and request extension 1463), and CARES questions to Debbie Simon at 410-238-1363.

cc: DHMH Executive Staff      DHR Executive Staff  
FIA Management Staff      DHMH Management Staff  
Constituent Services      DHR Help Desk