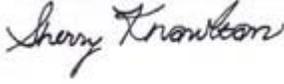


	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE	
	SUBJECT 1. ACCESS to Medical Assistance for Children, Pregnant Women an Their Families (PA 600C) 2. Provider Application for Benefits (PA 600P)	BY  Sherry Knowlton Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance Programs
NUMBER:	99-94-05	
ISSUE DATE:	March 31, 1994	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	March 31, 1994	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to make the PA 600C available to all providers who provide health care services to children or to families with children, and to explain the difference in the use of the PA 600C and PA 600P.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all providers enrolled in the Medical Assistance Program.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the Department's commitment to reducing barriers that prevent families from applying for Medical Assistance (MA), the Office of Income Maintenance developed a shortened MA application form for children under age 21, pregnant women and their families. A facsimile of this application form, entitled "Access to Medical Assistance for Children, Pregnant Women and Their Families" (PA 600C), is attached to this bulletin. The PA 600C was developed not only to encourage families to apply for MA but also to allow service agencies to make the application available and help with its completion.

During the months of May, June and July 1993, county assistance offices (CAO's) across the State held outreach meetings to make community health care and service agencies more aware of the MA programs available for children. The CAO's provided each attending agency with a copy of the PA 600C and made arrangements to provide them with additional copies. Many medical providers, including hospitals, attended these meetings. As a result, providers requested that the PA 600C be made available through the provider ordering process.

DISCUSSION:

In addition to the Provider Application for Benefits (PA 600P) is now available to enrolled providers. We realize there may be some confusion caused by the use of two different application forms; however, we think the increased access to health care by low income children is worth that risk. We are providing the following information to assist you in determining which application form should be used:

PA 600C - ACCESS TO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN,PREGNANT, WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

The PA 600C is an application for MA only. The CAO will not need to schedule an interview if the PA 600C is complete and all required verifications are attached. The PA 600C does not need to be notarized. The application was designed so that clients can complete it without additional instructions.

If a family completes the PA 600C, but also needs or request cash assistance or food stamps, they will be required to complete the 12-page Application for Benefits (PA 600) as well. A member of the family will also be required to appear for an interview at the CAO.

Providers should use the PA 600C for:

- A single pregnant woman.
- A family which includes a pregnant woman.

- A family which includes a child(ren) under 21 and/or a pregnant woman.

PA 600P - PROVIDER APPLICATION FOR BENEFITS

The PA 600P is the 12-page application form that certain providers, hospitals in particular, have been using to assist patients in applying for benefits. The PA 600P is used to apply for all public assistance programs - MA, Cash, and Food Stamps. This application form will continue to be available and must be used for the following:

- An individual or family for which the PA 600C is not appropriate.
- Any situation where there is doubt about which application form should be used.
- An individual or family which also indicates a desire to apply for cash assistance or food stamps.

DISTRIBUTION AND ORDERING INFORMATION:

PA 600C:

The PA 600C is now available to order in packs of 50 through the "Provider Order Form" (MA 300X). There is also an instruction video available to assist you in helping the client complete the PA 600C. You may order the video by contacting the local county assistance office and completing an activity request form. You will be assigned an activity number and will automatically receive the video and other program information. With the activity number, you will be able to order, free of charge, brochures and posters which provide information about Healthy Beginnings, the Medical Assistance Program for children and pregnant women.

PA 600P:

The PA 600P is available to order through the "Provider Order Form" (MA 300X) in packs of 100.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free inquiry line for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap.