

DSS-4357EL  
WGIUPD

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM  
**DIVISION:** Office of Medicaid Management  
Office of Temporary Assistance

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**GIS** 99 MA/008

**TO:** Local District Commissioners, IM & MA Directors  
**FROM:** Betty Rice, Director  
Division of Consumer and Local District Relations, OMM  
Patricia A. Stevens, Deputy Commissioner, OTDA  
**SUBJECT:** Identification of Medicaid and Public Assistance Recipients  
Mandated into Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment  
  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Linda Ross, Office of Medicaid Management (518)473-5983  
Ilyana Meltzer-Yaghy, Office of Managed Care  
(518) 473-7467  
Temporary Assistance: Region I (518) 473-0332;  
Region II (518) 474-9344; Region III (518) 474-9307  
Region IV (518) 474-9300; Region V (518) 473-1469;  
Region VI (212) 383-1658;

This is to remind you that local districts are required to utilize the WMS Restriction/Exception Subsystem to identify all Public Assistance and Medicaid recipients who are mandated into alcohol and substance abuse treatment (ASA) as a condition of eligibility. To identify these individuals, the districts must enter the Welfare Reform Recipient Exception Code (REC) 83 into the WMS Restriction/Exception Subsystem. Entry of Code 83 is required when receipt of public assistance, and in some cases Medicaid, is contingent upon receipt of and compliance with mandated alcohol and substance abuse treatment requirements. The use of the Welfare Reform REC applies to ALL individuals mandated by the district into ASA treatment, REGARDLESS of their enrollment in Medicaid managed care or the Medicaid fee-for-service program. Entry of Code 83 is also required in those instances where the District includes alcohol and substance abuse treatment services as part of the recipient's mandated work activities. The above policy was fully discussed in the November 6, 1998 "Dear Commissioner", "Dear Service Provider" and "Dear Managed Care Representative" letters; please note these letters were jointly signed by executive staff from the New York State Departments of Health and Labor, and the Offices of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, and Temporary and Disability Assistance.