

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
40 NORTH PEARL STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243-0001

PATRICIA A. STEVENS
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Temporary Assistance

June 6, 1997

Dear WMS Coordinator:

The purpose of this letter is to provide local districts with an explanation of the WMS enhancements scheduled for migration to the Training System on June 9, 1997 and to become operational on the Production System on June 23, 1997. These WMS edit and system changes are a result of federal reporting requirements. When federal regulations are published, another migration will further support these enhancements.

The attached summaries detail the specifics of these changes:

Attachment I: WMS Edit and System Changes (PA & FS)
Attachment II: WMS Edit and System Changes, and CNS Change (MA)
Attachment III: Detailed Definitions of Veterans Indicator Codes

For questions regarding the attached changes, please contact the following individuals at 1-800-343-8859:

Attachment I:		Section
Bob Markham	@ extension 4-2166	1, 5, 10
Tully Lenihan	@ extension 4-8749	2, 3, 4, 8
Albina Murphy	@ extension 3-9780	6, 7, 9

Attachment II:
Bob Decker @ extension 3-6206

Attachment III:
Ellen Nesbitt @ extension 3-0681

For information on the redesign of the WMS Non-Services Authorization (DSS-3209) and Application Turnaround Document (DSS-3636), please refer to the WMS Coordinator Letter signed by Robert Seaman and dated March 5, 1997. Any questions regarding these forms can be directed to Pat Shoemaker, extension 3-3706.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

For additional information on the changes to the WMS screens, please refer to the migration summary signed by Jack LaReau and scheduled to be mailed on June 6, 1997. Any questions can be directed to Jack LaReau, extension 3-3103.

Sincerely,

WD

Wendy Dmitri
Director, TA/WMS Program Operations

JBJ

Joan E. Johnson
Director, Bureau of Medicaid Systems
Office of Medicaid Management

cc: Commissioner
IM Director
FS Director
MA Director
CNS Coordinator

WMS Edit and System Changes (PA & FS)

1. On Screen 1, the fields for Office/Unit/Worker have been changed as follows:

	Ofc	Unit	Worker
Trans:			
Resp:			

Entry in the new Transaction (Trans) fields is optional. If entries are made in these fields, the information will be printed on the DSS-3209, but not pulled down on Screen 1 for the next transaction (unless the case remains in a pending status). The new Trans fields were added for use when a worker, other than the worker responsible for the case, takes an action on the case. The Trans O/U/W fields will not appear on client notices. To avoid confusion, the 'Resp' fields have been labelled for the worker maintaining responsibility for the case.

2. The Homeless Indicator field has been removed from Screen 1.
3. To support Federal Welfare Reform, two changes were made related to the Race/Ethnic Code. Codes are being added at the individual level on Screen 3 and an additional code of 'O - Other' has been added for PA and FS cases. The current allowable codes will be the following:

A	Asian or Pacific Islander
B	Black, Not of Hispanic Origin
H	Hispanic
I	American Indian or Alaskan Native
O	Other (Including Children of More than One Race)
W	White, Not of Hispanic Origin

Individual level entries in the Race Identifier fields are optional at App Reg. Any individual entries made at App Reg will be carried over to Screen 3. Entries on Screen 3 are required for all case members (entry for Unborns is not required) in all PA case types at Opening (transaction types = 02 and 10) and Recertification (transaction type 06). Race ID is required on Screen 1 for all transaction types. For NPA-FS & FS-MIX case types, it is required on Screen 3, for at least one individual at Opening (transaction types = 02 and 10) and Recertification (transaction type 06).

Please note: Currently, on the Screen 3 section of the DSS-3209 the Race/Ethnic Code field is two characters, although the data entry field on Screen 3 remains only one character.

4. On Screen 3, the field headings only have been added for 'Relationship to Youngest Child' (R1/Yg), 'Disability Status' (Db/Cd), and 'Educational Status' (Ed/Stat). Until such time as the federally-mandated values for these fields have been received, entry in these new fields will be prohibited.

5. To accommodate state legislation, a new Veterans Indicator field has been added to Screen 3. The purpose of this indicator is to identify individuals' veteran status for employment and training services in a specified order of priority. The following set of codes are listed from highest (Value 1) to lowest (Value 9) priority:

<u>Value</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Special Disabled Veteran (Disability of 30% or more)
2	Vietnam-era Veteran
3	Disabled Veteran
4	Combat Theater Veteran
5	Recently Separated Veteran
6	Other Veteran
7	Spouse or Dependent of a Veteran
9	Not a Veteran

Please Note: If an individual falls into more than one category, enter the value for the highest priority. For all PA, NPA-FS and FS-MIX case types, every individual 18 years of age or older must have a Veterans Indicator at Opening (transaction types 02 and 10) and Recertification (transaction type 06). Entry of a valid Veteran Indicator will be allowed, but not required, for other transaction types. See Attachment III for more detailed definitions of the Veterans Indicator codes.

6. To support Federal Welfare Reform, Citizenship Codes will be required in all PA and FS cases for each individual at Opening (transaction types 02 and 10) and Recertification (transaction type 06). Case type 60 (HEAP) will not be included. Also, the Citizenship Code will not be required for Unborns.

The current Citizenship Codes of C, I, or L will be supported. The Resident Alien Program Information (Alien No., Entry Date, National Origin and Resettlement Agency) have been moved to the new Screen 4. Entry of the alien information is optional. However, if the fields are used, valid entries are required.

7. The following two new Anticipated Future Action (AFA) Codes have been added:

220 End IPV Disqualification
221 Significant Birthday

AFA Code 220 was added at the request of local districts to enable them to track IPV Disqualifications. AFA Code 221 was added at the request of the Codes Consolidation Group. Please add the new AFA Codes as pen and ink changes to the WMS Non-Services Code Cards.

Please Note: Entry of AFA dates for the next century will be allowed (e.g. 01/01/00 will represent the year 2000, 06/01/01 would represent 2001).

8. On Screen 6, new field headings for 'BUD VER' and 'Authorized Budget(s)' have been added. Entry in these two fields will be prohibited, and reserved for future use.
9. In order to improve the local administration of HEAP, the payline edits for certain HEAP and Training payment types have been modified. The modification would allow the issuance of a restricted check directly to a vendor through use of Method of Payment Code 09 (Restricted), Pick-Up Code 4 (Vendor Direct) and a Vendor ID Number. This issuance method may be used for the following payment types:
 - H1 - Regular HEAP Benefit (Income Tier I)
 - H3 - Regular HEAP Benefit (Income Tier II)
 - 04 - HEAP Emergency Benefit/Non-Utility (Income Tier I)
 - J3 - HEAP Emergency Benefit/Non-Utility (Income Tier II)
 - R9 - Employment and Training Essential Needs
10. On Screen 7, a third and fourth occurrence of Associated Names and Addresses has been added. The new fields (C & D) may be used ONLY for additional Notice copies. These new fields also include an entry for a Canadian Postal Code when sending CNS Notices to a Canadian address.

Note 1: The correct format for the Canadian Postal Code is "ANANAN", a 6 digit code where 'A' represents an alpha character, and 'N' represents a numerical character.

Note 2: The only allowable Canadian Province Codes that can be entered in the 'STATE' (ST) field are the following:

- AB - Alberta
- BC - British Columbia
- MB - Manitoba
- NB - New Brunswick
- NF - Newfoundland
- NS - Nova Scotia
- NT - Northwest Territories
- ON - Ontario
- PE - Prince Edward Island
- PQ - Province of Quebec
- SK - Saskatchewan
- YT - Yukon Territories

The Canadian Province Codes will be listed in the next revision of the WMS Non-Services Code Cards.

WMS Edit and System Changes
Medical Assistance

For CT 20 (MA), the Veteran Category Indicator on screen 3 will be a required entry when the Transaction Type is 02 (openings), 10 (reopenings) or 06 (recertification), and the individual is age 18 or older.

The values are:

- 1 Special disabled veteran (disability of 30% or more)
- 2 Vietnam-era veteran
- 3 Disabled veteran
- 4 Combat theater veteran
- 5 Recently separated veteran
- 6 Other veteran
- 7 Spouse or dependent of a veteran
- 9 Not a veteran

For CT 20 (MA), the Race/Ethnic Indicator on screen 3 will be a required entry when the Transaction Type is 02 (openings), 10 (reopenings) or 06 (recertification); except that it is not required for unborns.

The values are:

- A - Asian or Pacific Islander
- B - Black Not of Hispanic Origin
- H - Hispanic
- I - American Indian or Alaskan Native
- W - White Not of Hispanic Origin
- O - Other

For CT 20 (MA), the Alien/Citizenship Indicator on screen 3 will be a required entry when the Transaction Type is 02 (openings), 10 (reopenings) or 06 (recertification); except, this field is not required for unborns and individuals with Categorical Code 15 (Pregnant Woman) or 36 (Presumptive Eligibility - Pregnant Woman).

The values are:

- C - Citizen
- L - Legal Alien
- I - Ineligible Alien

If the code is I or L an entry in Alien Number, Entry Date, National Origin Code and Resettlement Agency Code is not required, but is allowed.

**CNS Change
Medical Assistance**

MA Transfer Notices

A language enhancement will be made to the Transfer Notices because of a policy change in how the limited coverage period is determined.

The following notices will be enhanced:

X0037 - U54 Denial, Transfer of Assets, Institutionalized
Individual Excess Income

X0038 - U51 Denial, Transfer of Assets, Institutionalized
Individual Excess Resources

X0039 - U52 Denial, Transfer of Assets, Institutionalized
Individual Excess Income and Excess Resources

X0040 - U54 Discontinuance, Transfer of Assets, Institutionalized
Individual Excess Income

Screen WCN109 has been modified to accommodate this change.

Screen WCN10A has been deleted.

Detailed Definitions of Veterans Indicator Codes

1. **Special Disabled Veteran** means a veteran who is entitled to, or who but for the receipt of military retirement pay would be entitled to, compensation under any law administered by the United States department of Veterans' Affairs for a disability rated thirty (30) percent or more or, a person who was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.
2. **Vietnam-Era Veteran** means an eligible veteran, any part of whose military, naval, or air service was during the Vietnam era of December 22, 1961 through May 5, 1975.
3. **Disabled Veteran** means a veteran who is entitled to, or who but for the receipt of military retirement pay would be entitled to, compensation under any law administered by the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs and who is not a special disabled veteran.
4. **Combat Theater Veteran** means any member of the armed forces of the United States who served in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign ribbon or combat badge is authorized and who was discharged or released from such duty with other than a dishonorable discharge.
5. **Recently Separated Veteran** means any person who served more than one hundred eighty (180) continuous days or on active duty within the previous forty-eight (48) months with other than a dishonorable discharge.
6. **Other Veteran** (self explanatory)
7. **Spouse or Dependent of a Veteran** (self explanatory)
9. **Not a Veteran** (self explanatory)