

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Deputy Director

DHCF Transmittal No. 11-30

TO : Medicaid Providers

FROM : Linda Elam, Ph.D.
Deputy Director-DHCF



DATE : October 20, 2011

SUBJECT: Prohibition Against Claiming Medicaid Federal Financial Participation for Medical Services Provided to Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) Youth Confined to the Youth Services Center (YSC) and New Beginnings Youth Development Center.

This transmittal clarifies existing Federal law and policy pertaining to the availability of Medicaid Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for medical services provided to children and youth under the supervision of the District of Columbia Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) who are confined to the Youth Services Center (YSC) and New Beginnings Youth Development Center.

Federal Law

Federal Medicaid law and regulations prohibit payment for medical services provided to a child or youth when they are “inmates of a public institution” (42 C.F.R. §435.1009). A child or youth is considered an inmate of a public institution if confined involuntarily in an institution that is either a government-operated facility or under government administrative control.

There are two exceptions to this rule:

- (1) When an inmate becomes a patient in a medical institution such as a hospital, nursing facility, or psychiatric facility, and
- (2) When an inmate is residing voluntarily in a public institution while other living arrangements appropriate to the individual’s needs are being made.

Children and Youth at the Youth Services Center and New Beginnings Youth Development Center

Children and youth who are under DYRS supervision and who are confined to the Youth Services Center (YSC) or the New Beginnings Youth Development Center are considered

inmates of a public institution. Medicaid cannot pay and providers should not submit claims for outpatient health care services provided to these children and youth.

This transmittal is effective immediately. If you have any questions please contact Lucy Wilson-Kear, Associate Director of DHCF's Division of Eligibility Policy at lucy.wilson-kear@dc.gov or (202) 442-8997.

The Department of Health Care Finance is committed to providing comprehensive, affordable and quality health care services. Thank you for assisting us in meeting the needs of the District of Columbia Medicaid beneficiaries.

Enclosure:

cc: Wayne Turnage, Director, DHCF
Sheryl Johnson, Acting General Counsel, DHCF
Claudia Schlosberg, Director, Health Care Policy and Research Administration, DHCF
Patricia Squires – Acting Director Health Care Operations