



TO: ALL PROVIDERS

RE: NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (NEMT) SPEND DOWN POLICY  
CLARIFICATION

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers that the Department of Social Services (DSS) cannot pay through Medicaid funds for non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) for persons on "spend down". This clarification of DSS policy was effective October 1, 2012. The term "spend down" refers to the process by which people who apply for Medicaid and are over the income limit may become eligible for Medicaid. If the applicant's out-of-pocket medical expenses effectively reduce that applicant's income to a level within the Medicaid eligibility limits, the applicant becomes eligible. Prior to qualifying in this way, applicants are not Medicaid clients and are not eligible for any covered Medicaid benefits, including NEMT services. Applicants who attain Medicaid eligibility through spend down are eligible for NEMT services.

The State's transportation broker, LogistiCare, cannot accept reservations from providers for people who are not Medicaid clients.

Providers will receive an eligibility response of "spend down not met" for people who are on spend down. An applicant's spend down status is re-evaluated each six months or more frequently upon request.

**Responsible Unit:** For questions, please contact the Division of Health Services at DSS, NEMT Unit at (860) 424-5592.

