



150 State Street, Suite 301 Albany, New York 12207-1698 Telephone (518) 449-2707 Fax (518) 455-8908 Web www.nyahsa.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members

FROM: Patrick Cucinelli, Senior Financial Policy Analyst

DATE: February 12, 2008

SUBJECT: **DOH Guidance on Social Security Numbers for Immigrants**

ROUTE TO: Administrator, CFO, Director of Social Services

ABSTRACT: DOH issues guidance requiring a SSN for immigrants applying for Medicaid.

Introduction

As part of the eligibility process for Medicaid and Family Health Plus (FHPlus), an applicant must provide or apply for a Social Security Number (SSN). With certain exceptions, each member of a household who is applying for Medicaid or FHPlus must provide or apply for an SSN. Again except for certain exceptions, this requirement applies to immigrants as well.

DOH Guidance

Specific guidance on the SSN requirement for immigrants is available from the Department of Health (DOH) in [Informational Letter # 08 OHIP/INF-2](#). A copy of this letter is attached for member convenience. This guidance includes the following: 1.) Both federal and state requirements for a SSN; 2.) Situations in which an exception may apply; 3.) The relationship between the SSN and valid work authorizations; and 4.) The procedures to follow in cases where an applicant does not have a SSN. Providers servicing a significant number of immigrant clients may want to have this information available as a reference.

Please contact me with any questions at pcucinelli@nyahsa.org or call 518-449-2707 ext. 145.

Attachment