

# Medicaid Matters

## Agency notified of updated citizenship and identity requirements



The Alabama Medicaid Agency has been notified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that Medicare beneficiaries and SSI recipients will be exempt from the new federal law that requires individuals to prove citizenship or identity when first applying for Medicaid or upon a recipient's first Medicaid re-determination after July 1, 2006.

Based on the new guidance, the Alabama Medicaid Agency has developed an updated handout for use by applicants, recipients and others to determine what types of documents can be accepted as proof of citizenship and identity. [Click here to see updated handout on Medicaid's website](#)

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## Alabama Medicaid preparing for use of National Provider Identifier

On May 23, 2007, Alabama Medicaid providers will join other health care providers in the United States in using a federally-required National Provider Identifier (NPI) number on all claims transactions. Use of the NPI is mandated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and will also be needed to process claims after the NPI compliance date on interChange, Alabama Medicaid's new claims processing system.

Additional details will be provided as they become available. To ensure that claims are processed correctly on the new system, providers are asked to obtain all NPI number(s) needed and provide this information to EDS as soon as possible, but no later than April 1, 2007.

For more information about obtaining a NPI number, go to: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>

Alabama Medicaid providers can contact EDS for assistance at 1-800-688-7989 (within Alabama) or (334) 215-0111 (outside Alabama). [Click here to view a list of frequently asked questions](#)



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## Center for Demographic Research releases 2006 Health Data Sheet

The 2006 Alabama Health Data Sheet, produced by the Center for Demographic Research at Auburn University at Montgomery and the Alabama Department of Public Health, is now available to the public. The data sheet is produced every other year and includes health statistics for each of

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  - ◆ Helpful Resources and Links on Medicaid's Website

## 2006 Alabama Health Data Sheet provides county, state data

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Alabama's 67 counties as well as state and national data for comparison. The Center, which studies Alabama's demographic data, also produces the Alabama Population Data Sheet and the Alabama Kids Data Sheet, among others.

To view the data online: <http://www.demographics.aum.edu/hotspots.cfm?id=8> For a paper copy, please contact the Center for Demographic Research at 334-244-3463 or [phines@mail.aum.edu](mailto:phines@mail.aum.edu).



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## Eligibility Specialist Oscar Powell named "Extra Mile" award winner



Working nights and weekends is an assignment few would volunteer for. However, when displaced Hurricane Katrina evacuees needed help last September, Senior Medicaid Eligibility Specialist Oscar Powell not only stepped in to take Medicaid applications after hours, but assisted evacuees in search of housing and other needed resources as well.

Mr. Powell's desire to put others' needs above his own and go beyond the average work day to help people in need were among the reasons cited for his recognition as the winner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency's "Extra Mile" Award for April-June 2006.

The "Extra Mile" Award is given quarterly to an outstanding Medicaid employee who has gone beyond his/her assigned job duties. Nominated by a supervisor or co-workers, the recipient is chosen by a committee of Agency employees.

When volunteers were needed to help Hurricane Katrina evacuees last September, Mr. Powell volunteered to represent the Agency at the Fairhope and Daphne Disaster Recovery Center (DRC). Later, when a DRC was opened during a weekend at the Mobile Civic Center, Mr. Powell again volunteered to help on short notice. At the DRC, Mr. Powell not only took applications for Medicaid, but also helped storm survivors find housing, shelters, living assistance and work locations.

"Oscar was truly concerned about his friends and neighbors in the Mobile area and never was concerned that he might be personally inconvenienced by doing more work or working on a weekend to get the job done," said Jim Jones, Southern Regional Supervisor of the Elderly and Disabled Certification Division, who nominated Mr. Powell for the award. [Click to read more...](#)

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## Click below for helpful resources and links on Medicaid's website:

[Applying for Medicaid](#)  
[Billing Information](#)

[Contact Information](#)  
[Resources](#)

<b>Contact Us:</b>	<b>Recipient Questions &amp; Assistance: 1-800-362-1504</b>
	<b>Provider Assistance (EDS) 1-800-688-7989</b>
	<b>Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov">www.medicaid.alabama.gov</a></b>

