



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

JOYCE MASSEY-SMITH, MPA

Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services

April 16, 2020

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: ALL COUNTY DSS DIRECTORS, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE STAFF

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 130-SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

Thank you for being great partners throughout the evolving COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. This guidance is in reference to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Executive Order No. 130 dated April 8, 2020, related to Special Assistance (including Special Assistance In-Home) applications and redeterminations as included in Section 7 of the Executive Order No. 130. The Executive Order No. 130 shall remain in effect for sixty (60) days from April 8, 2020, unless rescinded or replaced with a superseding Executive Order.

Section 7.A.1:

Required face-to-face interviews for Special Assistance applications (including Special Assistance In-Home) are waived. Upon receipt of a completed application by postal mail or via electronic submission, the DSS shall make alternative arrangements with the applicant and/or representative to verify the completion and accuracy of the application. Should the DSS be using alternative audio and visual means to verify the completion and accuracy of the application, please ensure it is HIPPA compliant.

The DAAS 8190, State/County Special Assistance application, must be completed in its entirety, including original signature. If the DAAS 8190 is received by the agency incomplete, DSS must make every effort to contact the individual and/or representative by phone to complete the application. Extensive case notes of the follow up phone interview must be included in the case file.

Section 7.A.2:

Level of care evidence (FL-2), as well as other eligibility factors, for Special Assistance recipients (including Special Assistance In-Home) may be waived if those eligibility factors cannot be obtained due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Follow up review of the required eligibility factors shall occur within ninety (90) days of the date this Executive Order terminates, or the Special Assistance payment for the first month following the month in which the ninety (90) days end shall not be issued. DAAS is working closely with NC FAST and further communication will be forthcoming from NC FAST.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES

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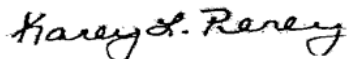
Section 7.A.3:

Special Assistance recipients leaving an Adult Care Home for their health and safety, for greater than thirty (30) calendar days, will continue to receive their Special Assistance benefits. This authority shall apply only if benefit recipients leave the facility for their health and safety. Extensive case notes must be included in the case file, related to the emergency discharge due to their health and safety.

We appreciate your partnership and encourage you to visit the NCDHHS COVID-19 Response website <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19> to stay up-to-date on the latest information and guidance.

Please contact the Special Assistance listserv at specialassistance@dhhs.nc.gov for any further guidance.

Sincerely,



Karey Perez
Adult Services Section Chief

KP/abp/cw

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