



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services

May 7, 2020

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: ALL COUNTY DSS DIRECTORS, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE STAFF

**SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 130-SA PROGRAMS, SECTION 7.A.2
Temporary System Change - Level of Care Evidence in NC FAST**

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

Thank you for being great partners throughout the evolving COVID-19 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 (SA) (including SA In-Home) level of care verification (FL-2) for applications and redeterminations as included in Section 7.A.2 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 The Executive Order No. 130 shall remain in effect for sixty (60) days from April 8, 2020, unless rescinded or replaced with a superseding Executive Order.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.2:

Level of care evidence (FL-2), as well as other eligibility factors, for SA recipients (including SA 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 SA 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.

Beginning Monday, May 11, 2020, in response to Executive Order No. 130 Section 7.A.2, the level of care annual FL-2 verification requirement is temporarily waived in NC FAST if the evidence is unobtainable due to the COVID-19 situation. Change Request EI-26462 has been completed in NC FAST. This waiver applies to SA and SA-IH active cases with expired FL-2's effective as of March 1, 2020, and ongoing until further notice. Waiver of the level of care evidence requirement will allow SA and SA-IH cases to continue issuing SA benefits with an expired FL-2 when a current FL-2 is not available.

For COVID-19 FL-2 status case tracking purposes, NC FAST has added two values to Level of Care Evidence/Level of Care Details/Certifier Type dropdown. The new values are "Level of

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Care Verification” and “No SA FL-2 COVID-19.” These will be available in NC FAST on Monday, May 11, 2020.

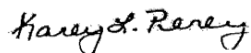
- **“No SA FL-2 COVID-19”** to be used for unobtainable verification due to COVID-19
- **“Level of Care verification”** to be used when written verification other than an FL-2 is being utilized. This is any medical documentation stating the level of care that is signed and dated by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. Please see SA 3100.VII for the required recommended level of care for all SA cases.

These two values are only used when the level of care evidence (FL-2) is unobtainable due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Extensive case notes also need to be included in the SA case file.

The [Executive Order No. 130 Webinar 1](#) provides further guidance related to this temporary system change. We appreciate your partnership and encourage you to visit the [NCDHHS COVID-19 Response](#) website 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
Division of Aging and Adult Services

KP/abp/ctw

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