



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Social Services

Pat McCrory
Governor

Aldona Z. Wos, M.D.
Ambassador (Ret.)
Secretary DHHS

Wayne E. Black
Division Director

October 16, 2013

Dear County Director of Social Services

Attention: Work First Program Administrators
Work First Employment Services Supervisors
Refugee Assistance Supervisors

Subject: Participant Notice Regarding Federal Government Shutdown

A mass mailing will be sent to all Work First Family Assistance and Refugee Assistance participants with information concerning the impact of the Federal government shutdown on their cash and medical assistance benefits. The notice will be in English and Spanish and will be mailed to each case head/payee on Friday, October 18, 2013. The notices are attached for your information.

If you have any questions, please contact workfirst.support@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Locklear".

David Locklear, Acting Chief
Economic and Family Services

Attachment

EFS-WF-22-2013

Economic and Family Services
www.ncdhhs.gov • www.ncdhhs.gov/dss
Tel 919-527-6300 • Fax 919-334-1265

Location: Hargrove Building/Dix Campus • 820 S. Boylan Avenue • Raleigh, NC 27603

Mailing Address: 2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2420

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Participant Notice Regarding Federal Government Shutdown

English Text

Due to the shutdown of the Federal government, federal funds are presently unavailable to the State. As a result, the Work First Program will not issue cash assistance, supplemental payments and replacement checks for November 2013 until federal funds become available. Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance benefits will not be issued until federal funding is available.

Re-certifications for Work First will still be completed but there will not be a cash payment issued until federal funds become available. Work First Employment Services/Work First Benefit participants are not required to complete work related activities on the Mutual Responsibility Agreement (MRA-Plan of Action) at this time. Cases that are certified for November 2013 benefits will receive their November cash assistance once federal funds are available.

Medicaid cards will continue to be mailed to all eligible Work First household members. Refugee Medical Assistance participants will not receive Medical Assistance until federal funds become available.

Families impacted by this change are encouraged to contact their local departments of social services with any questions and for assistance in locating other services and community resources.

Spanish Text

Debido al cierre del gobierno federal, los fondos federales no están disponibles para el estado. Como resultado, el programa WORK FIRST (Trabajar primero) no expedirá los beneficios de este programa, los pagos suplementarios y el reemplazamiento de cheques correspondientes al mes de Noviembre del 2013 hasta que los fondos estén disponibles. El Programas de Asistencia para Refugiados y el Programa de Asistencia Medica para Refugiados tampoco podrán expedir beneficios hasta que los fondos estén disponibles.

Se pueden someter las Re-certificaciones del Programa Work First, pero no se hará ningún pago de beneficios hasta que los fondos federales estén disponibles. Los participantes del Programa de Servicios de Empleo de Work First y de Beneficios Work First, no se les requiere que completen las actividades de trabajo relacionadas en el Acuerdo de Responsabilidad Mutua (MRA-Plan de Acción) durante este tiempo. Los casos que ya han sido aprobados (certificados) para beneficios en Noviembre 2013, recibirán la asistencia monetaria, cuando los fondos federales estén disponibles.

Las tarjetas de Medicaid continuaran siendo enviadas a todos los miembros elegibles de las familias que participan en el Programa Work First. Las personas que participan en el Programa de Asistencia Medica para Refugiados, no recibirán esta asistencia hasta que los fondos federales estén disponibles.

Se recomienda a las familias afectadas por estos cambios que contacten a su oficina local de Servicios Sociales con sus preguntas y también para localizar otros servicios y recursos comunitarios.