

IMPORTANT UPDATE TO PROVIDER NOTICE ISSUED FEBRUARY 28, 2006:
RE: Policy and Procedure clarification for Waiver Service providers, LT-PCS Services Providers, EPSDT Service Providers and Support Coordinators for Waivers and EPSDT

This is a reminder and clarification that the changes issued per memorandum dated September 9, 2005 for Waiver participants expired on February 28, 2006 **with the following exceptions:**

1. The rule regarding direct support staff providing waiver services in the home of the worker will continue to be waived through June 30, 2006 for participants affected by hurricane Katrina.
2. Waiver Providers from regions 1, 3, and 9 that have participants displaced by hurricane Katrina with them, in **out-of-state** locations, may continue to deliver those services provided they have contacted the Health Standards Section and followed the directives issued by Health Standards.
3. Failure to notify Health Standards may result in adverse action against your license and/or provider agreement.
4. The 30 and 90 day continuity of stay rules will continue to be waived through June 30, 2006 for participants affected by hurricane Katrina.

Displaced **in-state** participants of waiver and EPSDT services are required to choose a support coordination agency on the Freedom of Choice for the region in which they are residing. Participants have been notified that they will be auto-assigned to a support coordination agency in the region in which they reside if they do not complete and return the Freedom of Choice form.

The new support coordination agency will offer freedom of choice for NOW, Children's Choice, EDA and LT-PCS direct service providers for the identified region or parish in which the participant is residing per the established process.

Participants receiving only LT-PCS (not EDA Waiver participants), will be given a Freedom of Choice for a new direct service provider by Affiliated Computer Services (ACS) as they receive notification that the LT-PCS participant has relocated to another parish/region **in-state**.

Direct Service Provider agencies delivering NOW, Children's Choice, EDA or LT-PCS services must be licensed and on the Freedom of Choice list for the applicable program and region/parish in order to serve the participants in the region in which the participant resides. Direct Service Provider agencies may contact the Health Standards Section for instructions on becoming licensed in a new region. LT-PCS providers may follow the established guidelines for annexing one parish which is adjacent to their authorized region. If the LT-PCS provider wishes to be established in a completely different region, an office must be established in the new region, as described in the Provider Manual, Section 30.6.1. They should contact Health Standards for further instructions on becoming licensed and enrolled in the new region.

Direct Service Providers may contact the Health Standards Section at 225-342-0148.