

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS



February 11, 1974

REFER TO: ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 74-27

OBSOLETESuperseded by PCL # 77-15

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

Issued 3-17-77REPATRIATE AND CUBAN REFUGEE PROGRAMS UNDER SSI/SSP

This is to provide you with instructions and operating procedures for the administration of the ongoing Repatriate and Cuban Refugee Programs as a result of the impact of the federalization of the aged, blind and disabled categorical aid programs into the Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI).

Repatriate Program

When Section 1113 of the Social Security Act was enacted in 1961 authorizing a program of temporary assistance to U. S. citizens repatriated by the Department of State because of destitution or illness, there was no federal public assistance program which could be used to assist those persons. Accordingly, arrangements were made with local county welfare departments to administer assistance to repatriates in behalf of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, applying the standards of assistance used in the state-federal public assistance program with a full reimbursement from federal funds.

Effective January 1, 1974, the SSI program will assist needy adults on a uniform basis throughout the country without regard to residence and will be the primary resource for repatriates who are eligible for SSI benefits. Until residence is established the Repatriate Program will reimburse counties for expenditures in behalf of destitute and mentally ill repatriates. Assistance provided to adult repatriates is to be based upon the SSI standard of assistance and level of payment: \$140 for single persons and \$210 for couples. Assistance to repatriates with children will be based upon the AFDC standard of assistance.

Within 60 days after arrival in the United States, all persons who are sixty-five (65) years of age, blind or disabled must be referred to the local Social Security District Office to apply for SSI benefits. Any assistance from the Repatriate Program shall be terminated immediately upon determination of eligibility for SSI benefits.

County welfare departments will continue to participate in the Repatriate Program to determine eligibility and provide the scope and duration of assistance, medical care, and other necessary emergency services incident to resettlement or illness, except for the above changes.

Cuban Refugee Program

Through the vehicle of HR-1 Newsletters, you were apprised that the SSI program will become the primary resource for Cuban refugees who are 65 years of age or older, blind, or disabled, and that ongoing cases were to be converted to the SSA payment system. Adult Cuban refugees who apply for assistance after January 1, 1974, are to be referred to the local Social Security District Office for determination of their eligibility for the SSI program.

The Cuban Refugee Program will continue to assist Cuban refugees who are not eligible for SSI. This group of Cuban refugees should fall into the following categories:

- (a) Adults between the ages of 18 and 65 who are not eligible to Title XVI assistance, and
- (b) Family cases with children under the age of 18.

Assistance payments to the noneligible SSI adults after December 31, 1973, will be computed on the basis of the ATD standard of assistance utilized for payment in the Cuban Refugee Program prior to January 1, 1974, in accordance with DSW Regulation 69-105. Counties will continue to use the AFDC standard of assistance and level of payment for Cuban refugee family cases with children under 18 years of age.

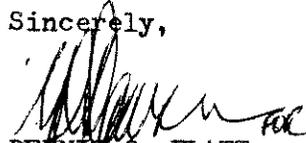
Beginning with the January 1974 claims for reimbursement, it will be necessary that you include on Form AA 223:

- (a) The number of adult Cuban refugees whose assistance through the Cuban Refugee Program is terminated due to receipt of SSI, and
- (b) The number of Cubans not on assistance who are referred to SSA.

This is important for program and budget planning. This data should be reported by category and may be typed on the reverse side of Form AA 223.

New regulations will be issued shortly. In the interim, any questions you might have on the services aspect of these programs should be directed to Mr. C. H. Ostby, Department of Health, (916) 445-7653. Questions of income maintenance should be directed to the Adult Program Management Branch, Department of Benefit Payments at (916) 445-0813.

Sincerely,


DENNIS O. FLATT
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ALBERT SELTZER
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