The auditor should not consider the Supplement to be "safe harbor" for identifying audit procedures to apply in a particular engagement, but the auditor should be prepared to justify departures from the suggested procedures. The auditor can consider the Supplement a "safe harbor" for identification of compliance requirements to be tested if the auditor performs reasonable procedures to ensure that the requirements in the Supplement are current. The grantor agency may elect to review audit working papers to determine that audit tests are adequate.

In accordance with 2 CFR, Part 200, Subpart F, when the auditor is using the risk-based approach for determining major programs, the auditor should consider that HHS has identified the Medicaid Assistance Program as a program of higher risk. While not precluding an auditor from determining that Medicaid qualifies as a low-risk program (e.g., because prior audits have shown strong internal controls and compliance with Medicaid requirements), this
identification by HHS should be considered as part of the risk assessment process.
The N. C. Office of State Auditor has identified this program as a major federal program/or the State of North Carolina. The Local Government Commission has notified the county and their auditor. Please refer to LGC Memo #993, April 23, 2003. In addition to auditing the program as major, the auditor of the local government is required to complete a Letter of Representation to the State Auditor of N.C. and a Turnaround Document and submit both to the LGC with the audit package.

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Medical Assistance Program

The objective of the Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid or Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended, (42 USC 1396, et seq.)) is to provide payments for medical assistance to low income persons who are age 65 or over, blind, disabled, or members of families with dependent children or qualified pregnant women or children.

II. PROGRAM PROCEDURES

History and Administration

Congress created the Medicaid program in 1965. It was designed to be a medical safety net for two categories of low-income people receiving cash assistance:

- Parents and children and
- Elderly, blind and disabled persons.

In the late 1980's, Congress began expanding the Medicaid program to cover specified population groups that do not receive cash assistance. Some of the population groups included in the ongoing expansion is:

- Pregnant women;
- Children in intact working families; and
- Medicare beneficiaries.

Medicaid programs are governed by federal guidelines, but vary in eligibility criteria and covered services. Each State develops a State Plan, (NC's State Plan is located at the following address: https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid/nc-medicaid-and-nc-health-choice-state-plans, which lists the requirements of titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act, and all applicable Federal regulations and other official issuances of the U. S. Department of Health Services. North Carolina's plan was developed by the NC Department of Human Resources (now known as the N. C. Department of Health and Human Services), and was approved by U. S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as the official federal rules for the State of North Carolina. These rules dictate how the State of North Carolina will run the Medicaid program and allow the State to request Federal Financial
Participation (FFP) dollars from the Federal Government as long as the Plan is followed. The Federal guidelines from the State Plan are then added to North Carolina's General Statutes through administrative rules adopted under G. S.150B. Today, Amendments to the State Plan are written by the Division of Medical Assistance on behalf of the State, and once approved by CMS are added to the General Statutes through G. S. 150B.

In North Carolina, each county determines eligibility for Medicaid benefits through their local DSS offices. North Carolina's program began in 1970 under the North Carolina Department of Social Services. A separate Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) was created within the Department of Human Resources in 1978. In over 30 years of operation, Medicaid's programmatic complexity has paralleled the growth in both program expenditures and beneficiaries. Historically, however, DMA has spent a relatively modest percentage of its budget on administration. This level of expenditure reflects Medicaid's use of efficient administrative methods and innovative cost control strategies. The federal government pays the largest share of Medicaid costs. Federal matching rates for services are established by CMS, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. CMS uses the most recent three-year average per capita income for each state and the national per capita income in establishing this rate. As North Carolina's per capita income rises, the federal match for Medicaid declines, requiring the State to increase its proportionate share of Medicaid costs. The established federal matching rates for services are applicable to the federal fiscal year, which extends from October 1 to September 30. The State's fiscal year (SFY) runs from July through June. Because the federal and State fiscal years do not coincide, different federal service matching rates may apply for each part of the overlapped State fiscal year. The federal match rate for administrative costs does not change from year to year.

Medicaid operates as a vendor payment program. Eligible families and individuals are issued a Medicaid identification card annually. Program eligibles may receive medical care from for a majority of Medicaid beneficiaries in North Carolina. Beneficiaries of Medicaid/Medicare are optionally enrolled in CCNC/Carolina ACCESS. Medicaid beneficiaries who are in long-term care facilities are not enrolled in a managed care plan at this time.

Participation in the Community Care of NC/Carolina ACCESS (CCNC/CA), managed care health plan is mandatory for the majority of Medicaid beneficiaries in North Carolina. Beneficiaries of Medicaid/Medicare are not mandated, but may opt to enroll in CCNC/CA.

- **CAROLINA ACCESS**: A primary care case management model (PCCM), is characterized by a primary care provider gatekeeper who provides direct care and care coordination.

- **CCNC**: A state-wide public-private partnership that has joined 14 regional networks of Carolina ACCESS providers with pharmacists, hospitals, health departments, social service agencies and other community organizations as community partners. These professionals work together to provide cooperative, coordinated care using the primary care Health Home model. This approach matches each patient with a primary care provider who leads a health care team that addresses all of the patient's health needs. The goal is to better manage the Medicaid population with processes that impact quality and cost of healthcare.
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

For all of these healthcare models, the objectives are:

- Cost-effectiveness
- Appropriate use of healthcare services; and
- Improved access to primary preventive care.

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) administers the Medicaid program in cooperation with state governments. The Federal Government, the State of North Carolina and the State's local county governments jointly finance the Medicaid program. The Department of Social Services in each of North Carolina's 100 counties has the central role in determining Medicaid eligibility for their residents. The federal participation is received through the State Division of Social Services. The State Division of Social Services also conducts Medicaid beneficiary appeals when the person making the application contests eligibility denials. A disability determination unit of the State's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services ascertains whether or not a disabled individual is eligible for Medicaid. This unit also makes disability determinations for two federal programs under a contract with the Social Security Administration (Title II - Social Security and Title XVI - Supplemental Security Income).

As stated above, the local departments of social services play an important role in determining Medicaid eligibility. Under authority of 42 CFR 431.10 and G. S. 108A, the 100 county departments of social services are responsible for determining financial eligibility for families and non-SSI Beneficiaries to be covered by the North Carolina Medicaid Program. Among these are infants and children under age 21, caretaker relatives of children under age 18, pregnant women, children in foster homes or adoptive homes, persons who meet Social Security criteria as disabled or blind, persons age 65 and above including individuals who have income and/or assets greater than Medicaid standards who qualify only for payment of Medicare cost sharing charges and/or Medicare premiums. Eligibles are classified as categorically needy, medically needy or categorically needy, no money payment. The classification helps to define reporting categories for federal reports and the federal participation rate for service payments and Medicare premiums and cost sharing charges.

Effective January 1, 2002, Medicaid coverage was authorized for women between the ages of 21 and 64 with a diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer. This coverage is known as Breast and Cervical Cancer Medicaid (BCCM). Beneficiaries must be screened through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) operated through health departments, community health centers and other medical facilities contracted to participate as screening providers and coordinators for the program. Applications for this coverage group are taken by BCCCP and forwarded to staff at the county department of social services for eligibility determination. Effective October 1, 2005, Medicaid began covering family planning services under a waiver as a separate eligibility group. The program provides family planning related services for both men and women who are ineligible for Medicaid benefits. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) allowed North Carolina to amend the Medicaid State Plan and convert the Section 1115 Family Planning Waiver to a State Optional Medicaid Program effective Oct 1, 2014. Effective October 1, 2007, Medicaid coverage was extended through the month of the 21st birthday for individuals who were in foster care on their 18th birthday. Effective November 1, 2013, Health Coverage for
Workers with Disabilities (HCWD) covers the working disabled regardless of total countable income or CAP status. HCWD does have a 150% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) limit on unearned income. Those with total countable income above 150% FPL must pay a yearly enrollment fee. Those with total countable income above 200% FPL must pay a sliding scale premium in addition to the enrollment fee. Effective January 1, 2010, an application for the Low Income Subsidy (LIS) placed through the Social Security Administration is considered an application for the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP), known in North Carolina as the MQB programs. Since in North Carolina, an application for MQB is considered an application for Medicaid, the county must evaluate the individual for all possible Medicaid programs. LIS assists eligible individuals with Medicare related expenses. Based on LIS data transmitted from the Social Security Administration to the State, an application for Medicaid is created in the State's Eligibility Information System (EIS) for any individual on the LIS file not currently eligible for Medicaid. Beginning July, 1, 2011, a signed re-enrollment form is not required for MIC and NCHC. The review determination process is called "ex parte". The county is required to look in other records and available information such as electronic matches before requesting it from the client. Beginning October, 1, 2013, an online Medicaid application was available for submission through ePASS for Medicaid and NCHC applications. EPASS is a secure; web-based self-service tool that allows applicants/beneficiaries to submit a Medicaid/NCHC application online as well as apply for other programs such as Food and Nutritional Services. It provides easy-to-use instructions that will guide them through the process. It also allows a pre-assessment to determine if applicants/beneficiaries are potentially eligible for medical assistance. Healthcare.gov screens the applications that appear eligible for Medicaid or NCHC are electronically forwarded to NCFAST for full Medicaid determination. Applications received between October 1, 2010-December 31,2013, received determination under existing Medicaid eligibly rules and if found ineligible, an additional determination was done under the new MAGI based budgeting mythology. See DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 06-13: https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/info/olm/manuals/dma/abd/adm/ and select: DMA Administrative Letter No: 06-13, MAGI-Medicaid/nchc Household determination.

Effective January 1, 2014, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 gives hospitals the option to determine eligibility presumptively for individuals who appear to qualify for certain Medicaid programs. A qualified hospital may elect to make presumptive eligibility determinations on the basis of preliminary information and according to policies and procedures established by the North Carolina Division of Medical Assistance (DMA).

As pertains to beneficiaries of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, the Secretary of the NC Department of Health and Human Services signed an agreement with the Administrator of the Social Security Administration under the authority of Section 1634 of the Social Security Act to accept the application and determination of eligibility for the Supplemental Security Income Program as an application and determination of eligibility for Medicaid. These determinations are transmitted to the State through the State Data Exchange (SDX). The SDX is used to create an on-line Medicaid eligibility record in the State's database. Social Security Administration staff performs case maintenance as long as the individual receives SSI and transmits any changed information on the SDX. The on-line record can be updated by the county department of social services to create an eligibility segment only for the 1-3-month period prior to the SSI-Medicaid application if the person has unpaid medical bills in those months. They may change the living arrangement code from private home to the code for an adult care home or nursing home, establish a cash payment to supplement the person's income for payment of costs in an adult care home, or to establish the portion of the person's income that must be applied
to cost of care in a nursing facility. When SSA terminates SSI eligibility, the county is required to make an exparte (on the record) determination for eligibility under any other coverage group in the State Plan. This determination is required to be made within 120 days after the termination of the SSI payment.

The groups eligible for Medicaid and the conditions for eligibility are described in the Act and federal regulations as mandatory or optional. The Medicaid State Plan describes mandatory and optional groups covered by North Carolina and the mandatory and optional conditions for eligibility. In addition, G. S. 108A, the Appropriations Act and administrative rules adopted under G. S. 150B authorize coverage for specific groups of families and individuals and establish rules for determining eligibility. The provisions contained in the above authorities along with procedures for applying the laws, regulations and rules are issued to county departments of social services by DMA in the form of policy instructions in Eligibility Manuals and Administrative Letters (located at the following web address: https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/info/olm/manuals/dma/ and https://economicbenefits.nc.gov/).

One manual contains policy and procedure for determining eligibility for persons who are disabled, blind or age 65 and above. A separate manual contains policy and procedure for determining eligibility for families with children under age 21, pregnant women and caretakers of children under 18, women with breast cancer, and the family planning waiver (now state plan) and the third is the Integrated Eligibility Policy Manual supports the NC Work Support Strategies. The three Eligibility Manuals and DMA Administrative Letters are the official directives, which must be used by all county departments of social services to make determinations of eligibility for Medicaid benefits. Counties may not change or disapprove administrative decisions or the eligibility policies issued by DMA.

Compliance with the state's eligibility policies and instructions is tested through a statistical case sampling by the Quality Assurance Section of DMA's Program Integrity Organization. The Operational Support Team provide policy training, case consultation and technical assistance to county departments of social services in addition to targeted monitoring for selected program components or modifications. The applications monitoring unit evaluates county application records to assure that benefits are issued in a timely and accurate manner, and those individuals are not discouraged from applying for benefits.

At the State level, DMA contracts with CSRA to perform many of Medicaid's administrative functions. Effective July 1, 2013 CSC pays claims, serves as a focal point for provider questions and problems, trains new providers, operates the prior approval system for most Medicaid services and operates NC Tracks the new Medicaid claims processing system, replacing the 35-year-old Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS).

DMA is a single State agency for Medicaid; however other agencies, DHHS divisions, and State departments work closely with the program and perform significant functions as follows:

**Division of Social Services (DSS)** - NC DSS conducts Medicaid beneficiary appeals when the person making the application contests eligibility denials.

**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVR)** - a disability determination unit within this division ascertains whether or not a disabled individual is eligible for Medicaid. This unit also makes disability determinations for two federal programs under a contract with the Social Security Administration (Title II - Social Security and Title XVI - Supplemental Security Income.)
Division of Mental Health/ Developmental Disabilities/ Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) - DMA works closely with the DMH/DD/SAS to finance community mental health services. Many services provided by community mental health centers are covered by Medicaid. DMA and DMH/DD/SAS also work cooperatively to offer the Community Alternatives Program for persons with Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (CAP-MR/DD). This program is a valuable resource for providing community-based services as a cost-effective alternative to institutional care.

Division of Public Health (Epidemiology) - DMA and the Division of Epidemiology cooperate in a number of efforts to improve care for people with HIV and AIDS. The AIDS Care Branch in the Division operates HIV Case Management Services (HIV CMS).

Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) - OMA and OAAS staff work together on many issues important to the aged population. Jointly OMA and OAAS design a long-range plan of services for the elderly in North Carolina. In particular, DMA staff routinely participates in policy development projects on housing and in-home aide services, and has input on policy related to Special Assistance to the Aged, Blind and Disabled (SA-ABO) which provides financial assistance for individuals in assisted living facilities, and, also provides Medicaid coverage.

Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) - OHSR has the responsibility for certifying and monitoring long-term care facilities in North Carolina. DHSR ensures that all patients, including those covered by Medicaid, receive quality care if they reside in a long-term care facility.

Division of Public Health (Maternal and Child Health - DMCH) - DMCH, within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), operates a variety of health care programs. Medicaid pays for services offered through DMCH programs and local health departments. DMCH and local health departments also play a central role in the operation of Baby Love, a care coordination program designed to help pregnant women and the Health Check Program which benefits children from birth through age 20.

Department of Public Instruction (DPI) - The Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the federal law requiring education related services to pre-school and school aged children with handicapping conditions. DMA works with DPI to provide Medicaid funding for those related services that are medically indicated, for example, speech, physical, and occupational therapy.

Office of Rural Health and Community Care (ORHCC) - The ORHCC and DMA in collaboration with the North Carolina Pediatric Society, Academy of Family Physicians, and the Society of Internal Medicine, have established a foundation called the Generalist Physician's Medicaid Assistance Program (GPMAP). The function of GPMAP is to recruit primary care physicians to accept Medicaid eligible children for screening and treatment.
III. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Crosscutting Requirements - Please refer to the Division of Social Services Crosscutting section at DSS-0. Note that only the reporting requirements in the cross-cutting section apply to this grant.

A. ACTIVITIES ALLOWED OR UNALLOWED

Administrative funds to local DSS offices can be used for expenditures related to administration and training related to eligibility determination. For Medicaid eligibility determination, the county pays fifty percent of the cost associated and the Federal Government pays the other fifty percent of cost.

B. ALLOWABLE COSTS/COST PRINCIPLES

For costs to be allowable for reimbursement, they must be determined to be allowable in accordance with OMB 2 CFR, Part 200 (Uniform Guidance, Subpart E), the North Carolina State Budget Manual


C. CASH MANAGEMENT

Testing for federal cash management requirements is not required at the local level.

E. ELIGIBILITY

The auditor should not test eligibility for determinations based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI-based determination) made after September 30, 2013. Detailed testing is performed under the Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Review Pilots, which serve as CMS' oversight of Medicaid and CHIP eligibility determinations during the initial years of Affordable Care Act implementation. Since the Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Review Pilots do not review non-MAGI-based cases (i.e. Aged, Blind, and Disabled), the auditor should test non-MAGI determinations as described below.

The State Medicaid agency or its designee is required to determine client eligibility in accordance with eligibility requirements defined in the approved State plan (42 CFR Section 431.10). In North Carolina, the local Department of Social Service offices is the designee for eligibility determination. Local DSS offices use three manuals as guidelines for eligibility determination for Medicaid, the Aged, Blind and Disabled manual and the Family and Children Medicaid manual and the Integrated Policy Manual. Also any "time limited" changes in eligibility determination rules are communicated to local DSS offices by Administrative Letters from Division of Medical Assistance. Section II of the State Medicaid Plan describes mandatory and optional groups covered by North Carolina and the mandatory and optional conditions for eligibility.

In addition, G. S. 108A, the Appropriations Act and administrative rules adopted under G. S. 150B authorize coverage for specific groups of families and individuals and establish rules for determining eligibility. This section of the State Plan is a resource for the Medicaid eligibility manuals used by the county DSS offices. The eligibility manuals provide detailed instructions to county social services workers for taking and processing applications, the time standard for making a determination, information required for specific groups of individuals/families to make a determination of eligibility or
ineligibility, what information must be provided to applicants for or beneficiaries of program benefits, required written and verbal notifications about the status of the application or continuation of benefits, periodic review of eligibility, and what forms must be used in the application and determination process. The instructions explain how information can be obtained and verified, whose income and assets must be counted in the determination and what sources of information to use in evaluating ownership interests and the market value of assets. County workers use the statewide North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST) to register and track an application and upon a determination of eligibility or ineligibility, the decision is data entered into the NC FAST where historical information is maintained for inquiry, maintenance and interfaces. County workers also use the statewide NC FAST to register and track an application and upon data entered the NC FAST, the business rules are run for determination of eligibility or ineligibility. The decision in NC FAST is where historical information is maintained for inquiry, maintenance and interfaces. The county worker maintains accuracy of the on-line eligibility record by entering changes to the demographic information, amount of income or benefits, eligibility period, case members and codes that are used to generate messages and notices to the recipient. Please note that some county departments of social services are entering into contracts with private companies who provide "virtual staffing" in which individuals employed by the company who are located off site complete the eligibility determination process. Applications processed by these individuals must meet the same standards as those processed by employees of the DSS. The Operational Support Team provides technical support and training to local DSS offices on eligibility requirements.

The Division has created an Eligibility Review Document, to be used for the audit process. The document can be copied and used for each case reviewed. The document provides guidance in verifying the eligibility review items. The Eligibility Review Document and the supplemental Attachment are available at the NC Department of State Treasurer (DST) under the Medicaid State compliance supplement link. Below is the link, scroll down to 93.778-1.

https://www.nctreasurer.com/slg/lfm/audit_acct/single_audit/compliance_supplements/Pages/2017-Compliance-Supp-Section-B.aspx

(At www.nctreasurer.com, under Division, select “Local Fiscal Management”, select “Single Audit”, select “Compliance Supplement and Single Audit Links” and select “2017 Compliance Supplement.” Select “Section B.”)

Auditors requesting information used to determine questioned cost should use the “CPA Data Request Document.” This is also included under the Medicaid State Compliance Supplement.

The Office of State Auditors (OSA) staff has provided specific instructions on sampling methodology to ensure consistency in the results of tests of accuracy of Medicaid eligibility. County auditors are required to adhere to these sampling instructions unless proper justification can be provided for deviation. The document Sampling Instructions for Auditing Medicaid Eligibility Determinations can be found at the DST link below:

https://www.nctreasurer.com/slg/lfm/audit_acct/single_audit/Pages/State-Auditor.aspx

Suggested Audit Procedures and Audit Objectives: Below are suggested audit procedures and audit objectives prepared by OSA. These are taken from the document Questions and Answers: Letters of Representation and Turnaround Documents 2017. This is available at the DST webpage referenced above.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control, assess risk, and test internal controls over the major programs as required by Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost
For the eligibility compliance requirement: Determine whether required eligibility determinations/redeterminations were performed (including obtaining any required documentation/verifications), that individual program participants were determined to be eligible, and that only eligible individuals participated in the program by selecting and performing tests on a sample from the population of all individuals receiving benefits during the entire fiscal year. These tests should exclude determinations based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) for the Medicaid program as prescribed in the federal compliance supplement.

For the eligibility compliance requirement: Note that if an individual is found to be presumptively eligible for a program based on eligibility for a different program determined at the county, the eligibility intake process and compliance with federal regulations must be determined based on the requirements of the originating program. For example, if a recipient is presumptively eligible for the Medicaid program based on eligibility for the TANF program, then the recipient should be audited for the requirements of the TANF program.

For the eligibility compliance requirement: If an individual is found to be presumptively eligible for a program based on eligibility determinations performed by a federal program such as Medicare or Social Security Insurance, these sample items should not be replaced. The eligibility for those federal programs should be verified and these individuals will be considered eligible for the program.

For the eligibility compliance requirement: Also, all eligibility determinations or re-enrollments should be audited for the individuals selected for audit.

For the eligibility compliance requirement: Individuals determined eligible in a county different from the one audited should be replaced if they currently reside in the audited county. However, supporting documentation should be obtained from the originating county to support the eligibility determination and the eligibility determination should be audited for accuracy. Documentation of the reason of the replacement should be noted in section 6D of the turnaround document. Any errors noted, including if no documentation is available to support the eligibility determination, should be reported in sections 6G and 6H on the 2017 Turnaround Document and reported on the Eligibility Error Documentation Template – Other Compliance Errors tab.

For the eligibility compliance requirement: Individuals determined eligible in a county different from the one audited should be replaced if the recipient does not currently and has never resided in the audited county. Documentation of the reason of the replacement should be noted in section 6D of the turnaround document. The Office of the State Auditor requests that these sample items be tested for proper eligibility determination. Any errors noted, including if no documentation is available to support the eligibility determination, should be reported in sections 6G and 6H on the 2017 Turnaround Document and reported on the Eligibility Error Documentation Template – Other Compliance Errors tab.

See Attachment A for guidance on suggested eligibility testing attributes and error descriptions for the Adoption Assistance Title IV-E program. Attributes for the Medicaid program have been provided by NC DHHS through the use of the Eligibility Review Document – Medicaid/NC Health Choice.
Eligibility Review Document – G.S. 159-34 (c) (1), notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes pertaining to the State Auditor, all State departments and agencies shall rely upon the single audit accepted by the Secretary as the basis for compliance with applicable federal and state regulations. All State departments and agencies which provide funds to local governments and public authorities shall provide the Commission with documents that the Commission finds are in the prescribed format describing standards of compliance and suggested audit procedures sufficient to give adequate direction to independent auditors retained by local governments and public authorities to conduct a single audit as required by this section. The Secretary shall be responsible for the annual distribution of all such standards of compliance and suggested audit procedures proposed by State departments and agencies and any amendments thereto. Further, the Commission with the cooperation of all affected State departments and agencies shall be responsible for the following.

1. Procedures for the timely distribution of compliance standards developed by State departments and agencies, reviewed and approved by the Commission to auditors retained by local governments and public authority.

2. Procedures for the distribution of single audits for local governments and public authorities such that they are available to all State departments and agencies which provide funds to local units.

3. The acceptance of single audits on behalf of all State departments and agencies; provided that, the Secretary may subsequently revoke such acceptance for cause, whereupon affected State departments and agencies shall no longer rely upon such audit as the basis for compliance with applicable federal and State regulations.

G. MATCHING, LEVEL OF EFFORT, EARMARKING

For Medicaid eligibility determination, the county pays twenty-five percent of the cost associated with eligibility determination and the Federal Government pays the other seventy-five percent. No local auditor testing is required.

H. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

Monies are made available on no less than a monthly basis through the North Carolina Division of Social Services. No local auditor testing is required.

I. PROCUREMENT AND SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

This requirement is not passed down to the local level. No local auditor testing is required.

J. PROGRAM INCOME

Subrecipients do not earn program income. No local auditor testing is required.

L. REPORTING

Since Medicaid administrative reimbursement is paid through the State Division of Social Services (DSS), procedures for evaluating fiscal reporting requirements should include review of the DSS county reimbursement form, the DSS-1571, and the DSS Fiscal Manual (which contains instructions for completion of the DSS-1571). Local auditors reviewing local DSS offices must review the "DSS Cross-Cutting Section" for more information on the DSS-1571 reporting form. Information is found in Section D of this State Compliance supplement as DSS-0. Presently the Local DSS offices report the amount of their expenditures for eligibility determination on the form DSS-1571. DSS then reimburses the counties for the federal participation percentage by drawing the funds from the State's Medicaid administration grant.
Section 201(b) of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) provided for increased FMAP funding for translation or interpretation services provided under CHIP (Health Choice) and Medicaid. This legislation provided the increased funding for interpretation/translation services in connection with program enrollment, maintenance of eligibility, and accessing of covered services by children of families for whom English is not their primary language. This includes individuals who have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) as well as American Sign Language or Braille.

A Dear County Director of Social Services Letter containing instructions for counties to claim enhanced funding for translation and interpreter services provided under NC Health Choice and Medicaid has been added to the DMA website. Counties may claim enhanced funding on form DSS-1571 effective February 1, 2011. The letter may be found at the following web address: https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/2016-dear-county-director-social-services

Local Divisions of Social Services may either contract with or employ individuals who provide translation or interpretation functions. The increased FMAP is available for these translation/interpretation activities. The State is required to assure that there is adequate source documentation to support payments. For example, if time studies (i.e., day sheets) are the method used to capture and allocate the cost of allowable translation activities, the time study forms must be retained to document the claimed amounts. The time studies must clearly delineate the program (Medicaid or Health Choice) for which the enhanced payment are being claimed.

Please refer to Crosscutting Supplement DSS-0 for further testing.

M. SUBRECIPIENT MONITORING

The local social services department does not award subgrant monies; thus, no local auditor testing is required.

N. SPECIAL TESTS AND PROVISIONS

Requirements in the DSS Crosscutting supplement are not applicable at the local level. No further procedures/local auditor tests are necessary.