10. Question: Can Medicaid be terminated for a title IV-E adoption assistance eligible child if a family does not complete a redetermination of adoption assistance eligibility?

No, Medicaid cannot be terminated under title IV-E adoption assistance if a family does not complete a redetermination of adoption assistance eligibility. There is no federal requirement to assess title IV-E adoption assistance eligibility after the initial assessment made by the adoption assistance state. Medicaid for this population is based on eligibility for title IV-E adoption assistance and can be terminated only under the following three circumstances:

a. Child has attained the age of eighteen (or, where the adoption assistance state determines that the child has a mental or physical handicap which warrants the continuation of assistance, the age of twenty-one)

b. Parent(s) is no longer legally responsible for the support of the child (legal custody)

c. Parent(s) is no longer providing any support* to the child

Since a failure to complete a redetermination of adoption assistance eligibility is not a listed circumstance for termination, title IV-E AA eligibility would continue and the child would remain Medicaid eligible and continue to receive services.

*Note: Support can be other than financial, such as providing items of clothing or maintenance of the child’s room in the home.

Practice issue: Redetermination of Medicaid eligibility is not necessary for a title IV-E adoption assistance eligible child. Title IV-E confers automatic eligibility for Medicaid and a child’s continued eligibility for the assistance program is confirmation of continued eligibility for Medicaid.

Cite: 42 U.S.C. 673 (a)(4).