November 16, 2009

CSS LETTER: 09-11

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: REVISED MATERNITY PAUSE POLICY FOR UNBORN CHILDREN IN NON-AIDED CASES

REFERENCE: CSS LETTER 05-03, CSS LETTER 05-03 ERRATA

This letter clarifies policy as it relates to pregnant non-aided IV-D applicants.

On August 28, 2006, the Department of Child Support Services issued CSS Letter 05-03 ERRATA rescinding prior directions for the maternity pause for aided pregnant women. The letter stated that local child support agencies (LCSAs) shall not open a case upon receipt of a referral for an unborn child. However, the ERRATA failed to instruct that the same policy should be applied for non-aided pregnant applicants.

In order to have a uniform case initiation policy for both aided and non-aided pregnant women cases, LCSAs should not accept applications for services from non-aided pregnant women and should advise them to return for IV-D services after the child is born. For unmarried women, the LCSA should provide written materials (i.e. CS910, POP20) for the Paternity Opportunity Program (POP) as a way of establishing paternity after the child is born.

Rejecting IV-A referrals and applications from pregnant women until the child is born is consistent with functionality in the Child Support Enforcement system, CSS letter 05-03 ERRATA and California Department of Social Services All County Information Notice (ACIN) I-39-06.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Cindi Pocoroba at (916) 464-5883. For questions regarding POP, call 1(866) 249-0773.

Sincerely,

/os/

BILL OTTERBECK
Deputy Director