cooperative agreements under 45 CFR Part 306; and

(2) Provide reimbursement to the IV-D agency only for those child support services performed that are not reimbursable by the Office of Child Support Enforcement under title IV-D of the Act and that are necessary for the collection of amounts for the Medicaid program.

[50 FR 46666, Nov. 12, 1985]

§ 433.153 Incentive payments to States and political subdivisions.

(a) *When payments are required.* The agency must make an incentive payment to a political subdivision, a legal entity of the subdivision such as a prosecuting or district attorney or a friend of the court, or another State that enforces and collects medical support and payments for the agency.

(b) *Amount and source of payment.* The incentive payment must equal 15 percent of the amount collected, and must be made from the Federal share of that amount.

(c) *Payment to two or more jurisdictions.* If more than one State or political subdivision is involved in enforcing and collecting support and payments:

(1) The agency must pay all of the incentive payment to the political subdivision, legal entity of the subdivision, or another State that collected medical support and payments at the request of the agency.

(2) The political subdivision, legal entity or other State that receives the incentive payment must then divide the incentive payment equally with any other political subdivisions, legal entities, or other States that assisted in the collection, unless an alternative allocation is agreed upon by all jurisdictions involved.

§ 433.154 Distribution of collections.

The agency must distribute collections as follows—

(a) To itself, an amount equal to State Medicaid expenditures for the individual on whose right the collection was based.

(b) To the Federal Government, the Federal share of the State Medicaid expenditures, minus any incentive payment made in accordance with § 433.153.

(c) To the recipient, any remaining amount. This amount must be treated as income or resources under part 435 or part 436 of this subchapter, as appropriate.

Subpart E [Reserved]

Subpart F—Refunding of Federal Share of Medicaid Overpayments to Providers

SOURCE: 54 FR 5460, Feb. 3, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

§ 433.300 Basis.

This subpart implements—

(a) Section 1903(d)(2)(A) of the Act, which directs that quarterly Federal payments to the States under title XIX (Medicaid) of the Act are to be reduced or increased to make adjustment for prior overpayments or underpayments that the Secretary determines have been made.

(b) Section 1903(d)(2) (C) and (D) of the Act, which provides that a State has 60 days from discovery of an overpayment for Medicaid services to recover or attempt to recover the overpayment from the provider before adjustment in the Federal Medicaid payment to the State is made; and that adjustment will be made at the end of the 60 days, whether or not recovery is made, unless the State is unable to recover from a provider because the overpayment is a debt that has been discharged in bankruptcy or is otherwise uncollectable.

(c) Section 1903(d)(3) of the Act, which provides that the Secretary will consider the pro rata Federal share of the net amount recovered by a State during any quarter to be an overpayment.

§ 433.302 Scope of subpart.

This subpart sets forth the requirements and procedures under which States have 60 days following discovery of overpayments made to providers for Medicaid services to recover or attempt to recover that amount before the States must refund the Federal share of these overpayments to CMS, with certain exceptions.

§ 433.304 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—

Abuse (in accordance with § 455.2) means provider practices that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business, or medical practices, and result in an unnecessary cost to the Medicaid program, or in reimbursement for services that are not medically necessary or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards for health care.

Discovery (or *discovered*) means identification by any State Medicaid agency official or other State official, the Federal Government, or the provider of an overpayment, and the communication of that overpayment finding or the initiation of a formal recoupment action without notice as described in § 433.316.

Fraud (in accordance with § 455.2) means an intentional deception or misrepresentation made by a person with the knowledge that the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit to himself or some other person. It includes any act that constitutes fraud under applicable Federal or State law.

Overpayment means the amount paid by a Medicaid agency to a provider which is in excess of the amount that is allowable for services furnished under section 1902 of the Act and which is required to be refunded under section 1903 of the Act.

Provider (in accordance with § 400.203) means any individual or entity furnishing Medicaid services under a provider agreement with the Medicaid agency.

Recoupment means any formal action by the State or its fiscal agent to initiate recovery of an overpayment without advance official notice by reducing future payments to a provider.

Third party (in accordance with § 433.136) means an individual, entity, or program that is or may be liable to pay for all or part of the expenditures for medical assistance furnished under a State plan.

[54 FR 5460, Feb. 3, 1989; 54 FR 8435, Feb. 28, 1989]

§ 433.310 Applicability of requirements.

(a) *General rule.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the provisions of this subpart apply to—

(1) Overpayments made to providers that are discovered by the State;

(2) Overpayments made to providers that are initially discovered by the provider and made known to the State agency; and

(3) Overpayments that are discovered through Federal reviews.

(b) *Third party payments and probate collections.* The requirements of this subpart do not apply to—

(1) Cases involving third party liability because, in these situations, recovery is sought for a Medicaid payment that would have been made had another party not been legally responsible for payment; and

(2) Probate collections from the estates of deceased Medicaid recipients, as they represent the recovery of payments properly made from resources later determined to be available to the State.

(c) *Unallowable costs paid under rate-setting systems.* (1) Unallowable costs for a prior year paid to an institutional provider under a rate-setting system that a State recovers through an adjustment to the per diem rate for a subsequent period do not constitute overpayments that are subject to the requirements of this subpart.

In such cases, the State is not required to refund the Federal share explicitly related to the original overpayment in accordance with the regulations in this subpart. Refund of the Federal share occurs when the State claims future expenditures made to the provider at a reduced rate.

(2) Unallowable costs for a prior year paid to an institutional provider under a rate-setting system that a State seeks to recover in a lump sum, by an installment repayment plan, or through reduction of future payments to which the provider would otherwise be entitled constitute overpayments that are subject to the requirements of this subpart.

(d) *Recapture of depreciation upon gain on the sale of assets.* Depreciation payments are considered overpayments for purposes of this subpart if a State requires their recapture in a discrete amount(s) upon gain on the sale of assets.

§ 433.312 Basic requirements for refunds.

(a) *Basic rules.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the Medicaid agency has 60 days from the date of discovery of an overpayment to a provider to recover or seek to recover the overpayment before the Federal share must be refunded to CMS.

(2) The agency must refund the Federal share of overpayments at the end of the 60-day period following discovery in accordance with the requirements of this subpart, whether or not the State has recovered the overpayment from the provider.

(b) *Exception.* The agency is not required to refund the Federal share of an overpayment made to a provider when the State is unable to recover the overpayment amount because the provider has been determined bankrupt or out of business in accordance with § 433.318.

(c) *Applicability.* (1) The requirements of this subpart apply to overpayments made to Medicaid providers that occur and are discovered in any quarter that begins on or after October 1, 1985.

(2) The date upon which an overpayment occurs is the date upon which a State, using its normal method of reimbursement for a particular class of provider (e.g., check, interfund transfer), makes the payment involving unallowable costs to a provider.

§ 433.316 When discovery of overpayment occurs and its significance.

(a) *General rule.* The date on which an overpayment is discovered is the beginning date of the 60-calendar day period allowed a State to recover or seek to recover an overpayment before a refund of the Federal share of an overpayment must be made to CMS.

(b) *Requirements for notification.* Unless a State official or fiscal agent of the State chooses to initiate a formal recoupment action against a provider without first giving written notification of its intent, a State Medicaid agency official or other State official must notify the provider in writing of any overpayment it discovers in accordance with State agency policies and procedures and must take reasonable actions to attempt to recover the overpayment in accordance with State law and procedures.

(c) *Overpayments resulting from situations other than fraud or abuse.* An overpayment resulting from a situation other than fraud or abuse is discovered on the earliest of—

(1) The date on which any Medicaid agency official or other State official first notifies a provider in writing of an overpayment and specifies a dollar amount that is subject to recovery;

(2) The date on which a provider initially acknowledges a specific overpaid amount in writing to the medicaid agency; or

(3) The date on which any State official or fiscal agent of the State initiates a formal action to recoup a specific overpaid amount from a provider without having first notified the provider in writing.

(d) *Overpayments resulting from fraud or abuse.* An overpayment that results from fraud or abuse is discovered on the date of the final written notice of the State's overpayment determination that a Medicaid agency official or other State official sends to the provider.

(e) *Overpayments identified through Federal reviews.* If a Federal review at any time indicates that a State has failed to identify an overpayment or a State has identified an overpayment but has failed to either send written notice of the overpayment to the provider that specified a dollar amount subject to recovery or initiate a formal recoupment from the provider without having first notified the provider in writing, CMS will consider the overpayment as discovered on the date that the Federal official first notifies the State in writing of the overpayment and specifies a dollar amount subject to recovery.

(f) *Effect of changes in overpayment amount.* Any adjustment in the amount of an overpayment during the 60-day period following discovery (made in accordance with the approved State plan, Federal law and regulations governing Medicaid, and the appeals resolution process specified in State administrative policies and procedures) has the following effect on the 60-day recovery period:

(1) A downward adjustment in the amount of an overpayment subject to recovery that occurs after discovery does not change the original 60-day recovery period for the outstanding balance.

(2) An upward adjustment in the amount of an overpayment subject to recovery that occurs during the 60-day period following discovery does not change the 60-day recovery period for the original overpayment amount. A new 60-day period begins for the incremental amount only, beginning with the date of the State's written notification to the provider regarding the upward adjustment.

(g) *Effect of partial collection by State.* A partial collection of an overpayment amount by the State from a provider during the 60-day period following discovery does not change the 60-day recovery period for the original overpayment amount due to CMS.

(h) *Effect of administrative or judicial appeals.* Any appeal rights extended to a provider do not extend the date of discovery.

[54 FR 5460, Feb. 3, 1989; 54 FR 8435, Feb. 28, 1989]

§433.318 Overpayments involving providers who are bankrupt or out of business.

(a) *Basic rules.* (1) The agency is not required to refund the Federal share of an overpayment made to a provider as required by §433.312(a) to the extent that the State is unable to recover the overpayment because the provider has been determined bankrupt or out of business in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) The agency must notify the provider that an overpayment exists in any case involving a bankrupt or out-of-business provider and, if the debt has not been determined uncollectable, take reasonable actions to recover the overpayment during the 60-day recovery period in accordance with policies prescribed by applicable State law and administrative procedures.

(b) *Overpayment debts that the State need not refund.* Overpayments are considered debts that the State is unable to recover within the 60-day period following discovery if the following criteria are met:

(1) The provider has filed for bankruptcy, as specified in paragraph (c) of this section; or

(2) The provider has gone out of business and the State is unable to locate the provider and its assets, as specified in paragraph (d) of this section.

(c) *Bankruptcy.* The agency is not required to refund to CMS the Federal share of an overpayment at the end of the 60-day period following discovery, if—

(1) The provider has filed for bankruptcy in Federal court at the time of discovery of the overpayment or the provider files a bankruptcy petition in Federal court before the end of the 60-day period following discovery; and

(2) The State is on record with the court as a creditor of the petitioner in the amount of the Medicaid overpayment.

(d) *Out of business.* (1) The agency is not required to refund to CMS the Federal share of an overpayment at the end of the 60-day period following discovery if the provider is out of business on the date of discovery of the overpayment or if the provider goes out of business before the end of the 60-day period following discovery.

(2) A provider is considered to be out of business on the effective date of a determination to that effect under State law. The agency must—

(i) Document its efforts to locate the party and its assets. These efforts must be consistent with applicable State policies and procedures; and

(ii) Make available an affidavit or certification from the appropriate State legal authority establishing that the provider is out of business and that the overpayment cannot be collected under State law and procedures and citing the effective date of that determination under State law.

(3) A provider is not out of business when ownershp is transferred within the State unless State law and procedures deem a provider that has transferred ownership to be out of business and preclude collection of the overpayment from the provider.

(e) *Circumstances requiring refunds.* If the 60-day recovery period has expired before an overpayment is found to be uncollectable under the provisions of this section, if the State recovers an

overpayment amount under a court-approved discharge of bankruptcy, or if a bankruptcy petition is denied, the agency must refund the Federal share of the overpayment in accordance with the procedures specified in § 433.320.

[54 FR 5460, Feb. 3, 1989; 54 FR 8435, Feb. 28, 1989]

§ 433.320 Procedures for refunds to CMS.

(a) *Basic requirements.* (1) The agency must refund the Federal share of overpayments that are subject to recovery to CMS through a credit on its Quarterly Statement of Expenditures (Form CMS–64).

(2) The Federal share of overpayments subject to recovery must be credited on the Form CMS–64 report submitted for the quarter in which the 60-day period following discovery, established in accordance with § 433.316, ends.

(3) A credit on the Form CMS–64 must be made whether or not the overpayment has been recovered by the State from the provider.

(b) *Effect of reporting collections and submitting reduced expenditure claims.* (1) The State is not required to refund the Federal share of an overpayment when the State reports a collection or submits an expenditure claim reduced by a discrete amount to recover an overpayment prior to the end of the 60-day period following discovery.

(2) The State is not required to report on the Form CMS–64 any collections made on overpayment amounts for which the Federal share has been refunded previously.

(3) If a State has refunded the Federal share of an overpayment as required under this subpart and the State subsequently makes recovery by reducing future provider payments by a discrete amount, the State need not reflect that reduction in its claim for Federal financial participation.

(c) *Reclaiming overpayment amounts previously refunded to CMS.* If the amount of an overpayment is adjusted downward after the agency has credited CMS with the Federal share, the agency may reclaim the amount of the downward adjustment on the Form CMS–64. Under this provision—

(1) Downward adjustment to an overpayment amount previously credited to CMS is allowed only if it is properly based on the approved State plan, Federal law and regulations governing Medicaid, and the appeals resolution processes specified in State administrative policies and procedures.

(2) The 2-year filing limit for retroactive claims for Medicaid expenditures does not apply. A downward adjustment is not considered a retroactive claim but rather a reclaiming of costs previously claimed.

(d) *Expiration of 60-day recovery period.* If an overpayment has not been determined uncollectable in accordance with the requirements of § 433.318 at the end of the 60-day period following discovery of the overpayment, the agency must refund the Federal share of the overpayment to CMS in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(e) *Court-approved discharge of bankruptcy.* If the State recovers any portion of an overpayment under a court-approved discharge of bankruptcy, the agency must refund to CMS the Federal share of the overpayment amount collected on the next quarterly expenditure report that is due to CMS for the period that includes the date on which the collection occurs.

(f) *Bankruptcy petition denied.* If a provider's petition for bankruptcy is denied in Federal court, the agency must credit CMS with the Federal share of the overpayment on the later of—

(1) The Form CMS–64 submission due to CMS immediately following the date of the decision of the court; or

(2) The Form CMS–64 submission for the quarter in which the 60-day period following discovery of the overpayment ends.

(g) *Reclaim of refunds.* (1) If a provider is determined bankrupt or out of business under this section after the 60-day period following discovery of the overpayment ends and the State has not been able to make complete recovery, the agency may reclaim the amount of the Federal share of any unrecovered overpayment amount previously refunded to CMS. CMS allows the reclaim of a refund by the agency if the agency submits to CMS documentation

that it has made reasonable efforts to obtain recovery.

(2) If the agency reclaims a refund of the Federal share of an overpayment—

(i) In bankruptcy cases, the agency must submit to CMS a statement of its efforts to recover the overpayment during the period before the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and

(ii) In out-of-business cases, the agency must submit to CMS a statement of its efforts to locate the provider and its assets and to recover the overpayment during any period before the provider is found to be out of business in accordance with § 433.318.

(h) *Supporting reports.* The agency must report the following information to support each Quarterly Statement of Expenditures Form CMS–64:

(1) Amounts of overpayments not collected during the quarter but refunded because of the expiration of the 60-day period following discovery;

(2) Upward and downward adjustments to amounts credited in previous quarters;

(3) Amounts of overpayments collected under court-approved discharges of bankruptcy;

(4) Amounts of previously reported overpayments to providers certified as bankrupt or out of business during the quarter; and

(5) Amounts of overpayments previously credited and reclaimed by the State.

§ 433.322 Maintenance of records.

The Medicaid agency must maintain a separate record of all overpayment activities for each provider in a manner that satisfies the retention and access requirements of 45 CFR part 74, subpart D.

PART 434—CONTRACTS

Subpart A—General Provisions

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 1102 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1302).

SOURCE: 48 FR 54020, Nov. 30, 1983, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 434.1 Basis and scope.

(a) *Statutory basis.* This part is based on section 1902(a)(4) of the Act, which requires that the State plan provide for methods of administration that the Secretary finds necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the plan.

(b) *Scope.* This part sets forth the requirements for contracts with certain organizations for furnishing Medicaid services or processing or paying Medicaid claims, or enchancing the agency's capability for effective administration of the program.

[48 FR 54020, Nov. 30, 1983; 48 FR 55128, Dec. 9, 1983, as amended at 67 FR 41095, June 14, 2002]

§ 434.2 Definitions.

As used in this part, unless the context indicates otherwise—

Fiscal agent means an entity that processes or pays vendor claims for the agency.

Health care projects grant center means an entity that—

(a) Is supported in whole or in part by Federal project grant financial assistance; and

(b) Provides or arranges for medical services to recipients.

Private nonmedical institution means an institution (such as a child-care facility or a maternity home) that—