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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 90 LCM-174

Date: October 25, 1990

Division: Administration

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Eligibility and Local Fiscal Responsibilities - New York
State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

ATTACHMENTS: Budget Excerpt (not available on line)

All blind persons fifteen years old and under, and all deaf persons between the ages of three and twenty-one years, who are of suitable capacity for instruction and legal residents of the state, are eligible for appointment, without charge to themselves or their families, to the New York State School for the Blind in the city of Batavia, and the New York State School for the Deaf in the city of Rome, respectively.

Effective with the September 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991 school year, Article 87 of the Education Law was amended to provide that local social services districts are financially responsible for the costs of maintenance during the school year, for children attending these schools who are residents of the district at the time of admission or readmission to the state schools. The maintenance rates and reimbursement methodologies for the maintenance components of the New York State School for the Blind and the New York State School for the Deaf will be determined by the State Education Commissioner, in consultation with the State Social Services Commissioner. These rates will be included in future updates to the Fiscal Reference Manual.

The State Education Department will issue a STAC-3 authorization which approves each child's legitimate placement in the state school, and will contain the specific dates of attendance and the rates for maintenance costs.

The local district will receive monthly billing from the State Education Department which lists the children in attendance, the dates of attendance and the maintenance rates. Payment for maintenance costs, for these two schools only, is to be done in the same manner as tuition payment; that is, the State Education Department methodology for computing costs takes into account more absences from care than the Department of Social Services methodology. Payment should be made to the State Education Department, and reimbursement for the fifty percent state share should be claimed on the Schedule K (DSS-3479), line 5 (the same as a CSE maintenance payment).

If the local district fails to remit the required maintenance payments to the State Education Department, within ninety days of the date on which the district was billed by the state for services rendered, the State Comptroller may deduct the appropriate maintenance amounts from any state funds which become due to the local districts through the claims settlement process.

If you have questions on the above, please call either Irid Gordon at 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-7549 or Marvin Gold at (212) 804-1108. If you have any questions related to rates call Thomas Hamel of the State Education Department at (518) 474-3227. If you have any questions concerning the number of children in your district eligible for these schools, etc., call Robert Scalise of the State Education Department at (518) 474-7116.

Richard Radzynski
Director
Local Financial Operations
Office of Financial Management