

## Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA): FY 2023 and FY 2024 Deadlines Extended by One Year

September 19, 2023

Revised September 25, 2023<sup>1</sup>

Dear Colleague Letter 23-34

Dear Colleague:

This Dear Colleague Letter extends the obligation<sup>2</sup> deadlines for Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and FY 2024 Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA) funds by one year. This includes all CMA awards funded by Refugee and Entrant Assistance (REA); the Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 and the Additional Afghan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (ASA); and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act (AUSAA), for funds awarded in FY 2023 and in FY 2024.

As required under ORR regulation 45 C.F.R. §400.210, except for services for unaccompanied minors, a state<sup>3</sup> must use its CMA grants for costs attributable to the Federal fiscal year (FFY) in which ORR awards the grants. However, ORR is aware of the continued need to support clients who arrived under Operation Allies Welcome and Uniting for Ukraine as well as through traditional resettlement pathways, and the amount, timing, and overall complexity of CMA awards (currently supported by three separate appropriations) requires extended availability to ensure the efficient and effective use of federal funds. In addition, the recent funding anomalies and unpredictable arrival patterns have resulted in delays in issuing CMA funds to states at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Due to these circumstances, ORR has determined that it will not apply 45 CFR § 400.210(a)(1) for CMA grants to the extent described herein for funds awarded in FY 2023 and FY 2024.

This extension will allow states to use FY 2023 and FY 2024 CMA funds for all allowable costs (Refugee Cash Assistance, Refugee Medical Assistance, Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program, and Administration) attributable to both the current and subsequent FY in which the CMA funds were awarded. Note that 45 CFR § 400.210(a)(2) remains in place, meaning that a state's final financial report on expenditures of CMA grants, including CMA expenditures for services for unaccompanied minors, must still be submitted to ORR no later than one year after the end of the FFY in which ORR awarded the grant. At that time, ORR will deobligate any unexpended funds, including any unliquidated obligations.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Tota  
Director, Refugee Program  
Office of Refugee Resettlement

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<sup>1</sup> September 25, 2023 revision footnoted.

<sup>2</sup> September 25, 2023: "and liquidation" removed.

<sup>3</sup> "States" throughout this policy letter refers to states and replacement designees.