

**AMENDMENT TO THE
SDX-BENDEX-SVES FOR 1137 AND/OR
CHILD SUPPORT BENEFIT PROGRAMS AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
AND THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
TO INCLUDE STATE ONLINE QUERY (SOLQ) ACCESS**

The SDX-BENDEX-SVES for 1137 and/or Child Support Benefit Programs agreement (hereinafter referred to as the primary agreement) is amended to establish conditions and methods of access under which SSA agrees to extend to **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services State Online Query (SOLQ)** access to various SSA data systems, as specified in the primary agreement and indicated in the amendments below, to facilitate the administration of Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Food Stamp Programs.

This SOLQ amendment to the primary agreement requires signoff by both agencies and shall be effective upon the date of the SSA Regional Commissioner's signature. Consistent with the duration set forth in the primary agreement, this SOLQ amendment shall be in effect only for the period of time stated in the primary agreement. Any unauthorized use or disclosure of information or violation of any provisions of the SOLQ amendment by the State Agency and/or their contractors/agents constitutes a breach of the terms of the primary agreement and may result in an immediate termination of SOLQ arrangements by SSA.

SOLQ access to certain SSA data systems is granted solely under the terms of this amendment to the primary agreement. SSA data obtained under the requirements of this amendment may be used only in the manner described in the primary agreement including this SOLQ amendment. All of the terms, conditions and safeguards set forth in the primary agreement apply to the State Agency and their contractors/agents access, use and disclosure of information obtained via SOLQ. Further redisclosure of SSA data by the State Agency and their contractors/agents may be authorized by SSA consistent with the conditions set forth in the primary agreement. Prior to signing this amendment, the State Agency agrees to provide SSA's Regional Office contact(s) (see Article XVIII.A of the primary agreement) written communication, consistent with section XIII.7 of the primary agreement, regarding access to the SOLQ by State Agency contractors/agents.

Either party to this SOLQ amendment may request modification to the terms of this amendment at any time. Written notification of failure to reach agreement on a written request for modification may constitute notice of cancellation of this amendment to the primary agreement.

The parties hereby amend said primary agreement by:

1. Adding after the last paragraph Article I (Purpose, Parties and Relationships, and Definitions), paragraph A.1 (Purpose) the following language:

SSA agrees to extend to **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**, once process and security criteria are met, SOLQ capability for the purpose of accessing various SSA databases and computer processes via direct systems linkages to facilitate **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services** in the administration of certain State programs listed in the primary agreement (i.e., Medicaid, TANF, and Food Stamp programs) and to provide safeguards against unauthorized use and redisclosure of such information.

Such access capability covers the data systems defined in this agreement unless such data system is specifically excluded from access by reference in this section below as follows:

N/A)

SOLO ACCESS IS LIMITED TO TANF (INCLUDES CHILD CARE), FOOD STAMPS AND MEDICAID PROGRAMS ONLY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1137 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT. SOLQ provides SSN verification, Title II, and Title XVI benefit information to the States. SOLQ *cannot* be used to receive BENDEX, SDX, Quarters of Coverage Query, Prisoner Query, or tax return information.

2. Adding where appropriate to Article I (Purpose, Parties and Relationships, and Definitions), paragraph C (Definitions) the following language:

"State Online Query (SOLQ)" means the electronic process for providing State authorized personnel the ability to access various SSA databases, as specified in the primary agreement, as is necessary by querying specific records of individuals to facilitate processing of certain State actions.

3. Adding to Article IV (Justification and Anticipated Results), as paragraph A.6 (Justification) the following language:

SOLQ adds a specific electronic use available to any participating State for accessing SSA data. It is more efficient and quicker than other processes currently available to the States. SOLQ shall eliminate time-consuming contacts with SSA field offices to obtain basic beneficiary data, which shall be furnished directly to the State via direct computer linkage.

4. Adding to Article IV (Justification and Anticipated Results), paragraph B (Anticipated Results) the following language:

SOLQ access has potential to increase program and administrative savings for SSA and the States.

5. Adding to Article V (Systems Operations), as paragraph G the following language:

The SOLQ aspect of this matching program is operated by SSA and the State Agency via either the Internet or direct systems linkages. Information shall be transmitted directly between SSA and the State Agency via direct linkage.

6. Adding to Article XI (Procedures for Security), as paragraph F the following language:

The State shall use the data accessed via SOLQ and any records created with such data only as provided for under the terms of the SOLQ amendment and this agreement, and in the manner prescribed by law, and shall maintain proper safeguards to prevent unauthorized release or use of such data. The State shall adhere to SSA's SOLQ security guidelines defined in SSA's "Information System Security Guidelines for Federal, State and Local Agencies Receiving Electronic Information from the Social Security Administration" (see Attachment C).

7. Adding to Article XIII (Procedures for Records Usage, Duplication, and Redisclosure Restrictions), as paragraph A.12 the following language:

The State Agency is only authorized to use information obtained via SOLQ for the purpose of administering a Medicaid, TANF or Food Stamp program pursuant to section 1137(b) of the Act. The State Agency shall not redisclose SOLQ information to any other person or entity (e.g., State contractor) without an approved modification to the SOLQ amendment and this agreement, when appropriate.

8. Adding to the end of Article XIII (Procedures for Records Usage, Duplication, and Redislosure Restrictions), as paragraph A.13 the following language:

Complete records shall be kept of any redisclosure of information obtained from SSA databases via SOLQ. Records pertaining to redisclosures shall be retained for a minimum of 3 (preferably 7) years and they shall be available for inspection as SSA may require.

These records shall show:

- What information was redisclosed;
- To whom the redisclosure was made;
- The purpose for redisclosure;
- The legal basis for redisclosure; and
- The name of the State Agency official who authorized the redisclosure.

9. Agency Approval

Each party executing this Agreement is authorized to enter into agreements of this nature on behalf of their agency.

Social Security Administration:

BY: Nancy Veillon
Nancy Veillon
Associate Commissioner
Office of Income Security Programs

4/2/07
(Date)

I certify that the SSA Data Integrity Board approved this Agreement.

BY: Manuel J. Vaz
Manuel J. Vaz
Acting Chairman
Data Integrity Board

4-24-07
(Date)

10. Agency Approval Signatures

The signatories below warrant and represent that they have the competent authority on behalf of their respective agencies to enter into the obligations set forth in this Amendment. The authorized officials whose signatures appear below have committed their respective agencies to the terms of this Amendment effective this 25 day of JUNE, 2007.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION:

Paul D. Barnes
Atlanta Regional Commissioner

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:

Carmen Hooker Odom
Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services