100.1 BACKGROUND

The Public Assistance to Adults (PAA) program was established in 1974 as a program to supplement Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Individuals eligible at that time were those who received public assistance grants in December 1973 that exceeded benefits provided by SSI. This part of the program is now called Mandatory State Supplement.

100.2 PURPOSE

Over the years, the program has evolved from an SSI supplement to a state-funded program paid to needy individuals who reside in specified protective living arrangements. These individuals live in licensed Assisted Living facilities, Certified Adult Residential Environmental (CARE) homes (also known as Project Home), or Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) Rehabilitative Residences.

100.3 REQUIREMENTS

A. Program requirements are basically the same as other Family Investment Administration (FIA) assistance programs. Applicants must meet technical and financial eligibility criteria.

1. The assistance unit is always one person and recipients are automatically eligible for Medical Assistance.

2. Applicants must apply for SSI as a condition of eligibility.

B. While basic eligibility requirements are the same for the three types of living arrangement categories, there are significant differences among the subcategories. This PAA manual has been organized to facilitate access to information regarding each category.

1. Sections 200 through 800 are generic sections. Information in these sections applies to all three categories.

2. Section 900 has three subsections covering calculation of benefits for the three types of living arrangements, Assisted Living, Project Home, and Rehabilitative Residences.