

Cathy Cooper
Authorized Signature

Number: SPD-AR-11-017
Issue Date: 2/17/2011

Topic: Medical Benefits

Due Date: 3/1/2011

Subject: QMB/SMB/SMF Clients Who May Be Over Income on March 1st

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

Action Required:

The 2011 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) was released on January 20, 2011. The income standards for the Medicare Savings Programs (QMB/SMB/SMF) are increasing on March 1, 2011. This is an unusual year as we are having an increase in the FPL, but no COLA. So what we will have is some clients “sliding” from SMB into QMB and from SBI/CBI into SMF.

The SPD field will receive a list of cases from Central Office of SMB clients who should be looked at for QMB eligibility. Because of the calculations involved, there will be no list for service clients as there is no reliable way to ascertain adjusted income for MSP programs on a service case. Case managers and eligibility workers are asked to look at service cases at recert or whenever the case comes to their attention to see if MSP eligibility has changed.

From looking at a random case sample, it is apparent that there will be some false positives as all client income is not reflected on some of the CMS cases and spouses, with their income, are not present in some cases either. Please review the list that will be coming separately for possible QMB eligibility.

Reason for Action: There is the potential for some SMB clients to be QMB eligible when the new Federal Poverty Level goes into effect. There is a need to review cases for this increased benefit.

Field/Stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by: **Operations Committee**

If you have any questions about this action request, contact:

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