# CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 06-12, FPL INCOME LIMIT CHANGES

**DATE: MARCH 22, 2012** 

Manual: Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid

Change No: 06-12

To: County Directors of Social Services

Effective: April 1, 2012

#### I. CONTENT OF CHANGE

- A. This change notice is regarding the new poverty level income limits. A Dear County Director Letter dated 03/08/12 was posted to the DMA website, providing implementation instructions for pending applications, new applications and ongoing cases.
- B. <u>DMA-5179</u>, MAABD Eligibility Overview Chart is revised to reflect the 2012 income levels.
- C. The <u>DMA-5150A</u>, Screening for Medicaid Eligibility Under the Cola Passalong link is added to manual section MA-2110, Passalong.
- D. The amount of the Student Earned Income Exclusion is adjusted by the cost of living adjustment (COLA) that is used to adjust the SSI Federal Benefit rate. The COLA for 2012 is 3.6%.

### II. EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW INCOME LIMITS

### A. Income Limits

Income limits for MAABD-N, MQB-Q, MQB-B, MQB-E, MWD and HCWD are revised effective April 1, 2012 to reflect the increase in the federal poverty level. The income limits were updated in EIS effective February 27, 2012. You may enter the new limits after that date.

Use the new income limits to determine eligibility beginning April 1, 2012. Use the 2011 income limits to determine eligibility for months prior to April 2012.

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## **B.** COLA Disregard

The exclusion of the RSDI cost of living allowance (COLA) for MAABD-N, MQB-Q, MQB-B, MQB-E, and MWD ends with the implementation of the new income limits. Effective April 1, 2012, begin counting the full RSDI amount, including the 2012 COLA. Continue to disregard the COLA for January, February and March 2012.

## **C. Student Earned Income Exclusion**

Effective January 1, 2012, exclude \$1,700 per month, but no more than \$6,840 total for the year 2012, of the countable earned income of an eligible student.

### V. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL

A. Remove: MA-2110, Passalong, Pages 1-4 and 7-10.

Insert: MA-2110, Passalong, Pages 1-4 and 7-10.

B. Remove: MA-2260, Financial Eligibility Regulations-PLA, Pages 17-22 and 25-28.

Insert: MA-2260, Financial Eligibility Regulations-PLA, Pages 17-22 and 25-28.

C. Remove: MA-2311, LIS Processing and Case maintenance, Pages 7-8 and Page 11.

Insert: MA-2311, LIS Processing and Case maintenance, Pages 7-8 and Page 11.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Craigan L. Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

(This material was researched and written by Ena Lightbourne, Policy Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.)