

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR MANUAL RELEASES

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
BENEFICIARY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
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MANUAL: Medical Assistance

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2004

RELEASE NO: MR-116

ISSUED: March 2004

APPLICABILITY: updated tables of contents; QMB/SLMB income standards; deprivation of parental support; Families and Children categorically needy resource standard; Period Life table.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Remove Pages</u>	<u>Insert Pages</u>
<u>Table of Contents</u>	Table of Contents (before Introduction)	Table of Contents (before Introduction)
<u>Chapter 3 – Coverage Groups</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 300-1)	Table of Contents (before 300-1)
(QMB/SLMB income limits)	Appendix A (after page 39 of Policy Alert 03-1)	Appendix A (after page 39 of Policy Alert 03-1)
<u>Chapter 4 – Application Requirements</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 400-1)	Table of Contents (before 400-1)
<u>Chapter 5 – Non-Financial Eligibility</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 500-1)	Table of Contents (before 500-1)
<u>Chapter 6 – Assistance Unit</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 600-1)	Table of Contents (before 600-1)
(delete section about deprivation of parental support)	600-15 – 600-36 Policy Alert 06-1	600-15 – 600-16 600-35 – 600-36
<u>Chapter 7 – Income</u> (Table of Contents)	v. Table of Contents (before 700-1)	v. Table of Contents (before 700-1)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Remove Pages</u>	<u>Insert Pages</u>
<u>Chapter 8 – Resources</u> (Table of Contents)	iii. Table of Contents (before 800-1)	iii. Table of Contents (before 800-1)
<u>Chapter 9 – Financial Eligibility for Non-Institutionalized Persons</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 900-1)	Table of Contents (before 900-1)
<u>Chapter 10 – Eligibility for Institutionalized Persons</u> (Table of Contents)		iii Table of Contents (before 1000-1)
<u>Chapter 11 – Certification Periods</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 1100-1)	Table of Contents (before 1100-1)
<u>Chapter 12 – Post-Eligibility Requirements</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before 1200-1)	Table of Contents (before 1200-1)
<u>Schedules</u> (Table of Contents)	Table of Contents (before Schedule MA-1)	Table of Contents (before Schedule MA-1)
(Schedule MA-1B)	Schedule MA-1B	
(Schedule MA-2B categorically needy resource standard - FAC)	pages 5 – 6 Schedules MA-2 – MA-2B	pages 5 – 6 Schedules MA-2 – MA-2B
(Schedules MA-3 and MA-4)	Schedule MA-3 Schedule MA-4	
(Schedule MA-9A Period Life Table)	Schedule MA-9A	Schedule MA-9A

COMMENTS

The Table of Contents for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program Eligibility Manual is updated. Each Chapter's Table of Contents is updated as necessary, especially to list the accompanying Policy Alerts. Also updated is the Table of Contents for the Medical Assistance Schedules in the Manual's Appendix.

Manual Release MR-116 contains the new QMB/SLMB income standards effective April 1, 2004. Apply the new standards to any application or redetermination dated April 1, 2004 or after. The COLA disregard will be removed from CARES effective April 30, 2004 via mass modification.

Policy Alert 06-1, issued in March 2002, reminded local departments that deprivation of parental support and the 100-hour rule for an unemployed/underemployed parent are no longer technical factors of Medical Assistance Families and Children (FAC) eligibility for intact families.

The policy eliminating deprivation as an eligibility factor was issued through the FIA Action Transmittal 97-16 effective October 1, 1996 and the FIA Action Transmittal 98-10 of August 31, 1997. Policy Alert 06-1 replaced the requirements in Chapter 6 of the Medical Assistance Eligibility Manual related to deprivation of parental support.

The entire section about deprivation of parental support is now deleted from the Manual. MR-116 includes replacement pages for 600-15 – 600-16 and 600-35 – 600-36, and instructs workers to remove pages 600-17 – 600-34 from the Manual. Also, Policy Alert 06-1 should be removed from the Manual. The CARES workaround procedures specified in Policy Alert 06-1 are no longer necessary, because CARES programming was changed in June 2002, as announced in CARES Bulletin 02-26. The “DEPRIV” field on the CARES DEM1 screen was renamed “PARENTAL STATUS”, and the valid value was removed for “U” – principal wage earner unemployed or underemployed. Assistance units previously coded as “U” are now coded as “N” – no parental support required. The valid value of “N” is only used for two-parent cases without a disability.

In the Manual’s Appendix under Medical Assistance Schedules, certain obsolete or unnecessary schedules are removed:

- MA-1B In-kind Income – ABD
- MA-3 category and scope codes from MMIS-I and pre-CARES
- MA-4 list of licensed long-term care facilities.

Schedule MA-2B is updated with the current resource standard for categorically needy Families and Children (FAC) (coverage groups F01 – F05). The Manual had the resource standard previously used under Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). When Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) replaced AFDC in October 1996, the household resource standard was increased. MA FAC categorically needy coverage groups use the TCA income and resource standards.

Schedule MA-9A with the Period Life Table is updated with new standards issued by the federal government in July 2003. When these standards are updated, they are posted on the Social Security Administration’s Internet site at:

www.ssa.gov/OACT/STATS

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
ELIGIBILITY MANUAL (COMAR 10.09.24)**

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MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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QMB INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/04	Individual	Couple
Annual	\$9,310.00	\$12,490.00
Monthly	\$ 776.00	\$ 1,041.00

Table 2
SSI PAYMENT RATE

Effective 1/1/04	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$564.00	\$846.00

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Table 3
SLMB INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/04	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$777 - \$930	\$1,042 - \$1,248

Table 4
SLMB II INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/04	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$931 - \$1,047	\$1,249- \$1,405

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Verification of "Living With"

Verification that a child is "living with" a caretaker relative is required only if there is a feeling of uncertainty about the circumstances. Usually, the ET can assume that the child and adult live together if the applicant verifies an address that is in the same neighborhood as the child's school.

If the child's natural parents are separated and it is unclear as to which parent the child lives with, verification is needed (also see procedures on joint custody). Similarly, verification should be required if a teenage child claims to have recently moved out of his or her parents' home into the home of a relative. The ET should be creative about requesting verifications of questionable circumstances. Often an affidavit or a collateral contract would provide the most current information. In some situations, the ET may decide to clarify questionable circumstances by verifying where the child is **not** living rather than where the child lives. For example, if a teenager says she is living with her father for the summer, a statement of verification from the mother might be appropriate. Most close relatives by blood, adoption, or marriage qualify as caretaker relatives. Natural and adoptive parents are one kind of caretaker relative, but they are distinguished from other caretaker relatives

in that they are the only ones held to be financially responsible for the child. The income and resources of a natural or adoptive parent living with a child must be included in the determination of the assistance unit's financial eligibility whether or not they are in the same assistance unit, unless the parent is an SSI recipient.

Deprivation of Parental Support

Deprivation of parental support is no longer a factor of Medical Assistance eligibility for intact families. Therefore, the section about deprivation on pages 600-16—600-35 is deleted. Instructions about this policy change were issued in October 1996.

Deprivation and the 100-hour for an unemployed or underemployed parent are no longer used as technical factors of Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility for Family and Children (FAC) coverage categories. For an intact family with both parents living in the household, a child is considered deprived regardless of the number of hours that the principal wage earner or either parent is employed, and regardless of whether one or both parents is unemployed, underemployed, or incapacitated. Single-parent households are still assumed to have deprivation based on the absence or death of a parent.

.06C **Children**

Children discussed in this section may come under FAC or under ABD as blind or disabled. They may or may not be living with a parent or CTROP. Choice of category, exclusion option, and separate eligibility determination may be applicable.

.06A-1 **Children Not Living With a Parent or CTROP**

(1) (b) Children who do not live with a parent, a CTROP, or their own child are not considered to be members of a family. This policy is based on the premise that children not living with a parent or CTROP do not constitute a family. This is so irrespective of the number of children living together or their relationship to each other. Such an arrangement

requires an individual eligibility determination for each child; i.e., each child for whom assistance is requested is a separate unit and the eligibility determination is not made in conjunction with any other person.

A blind or disabled child not living with a parent or CTROP may apply as FAC or as BD. In either case, an individual eligibility determination is required because the child does not live with a parent or CTROP. If application is made as FAC, the FAC rules apply. If application is made as BD, the ABD rules apply.

If the circumstances that permitted an individual eligibility determination change (parent or CTROP joins children), the child may lose his entitlement to an individual eligibility determination. (See section entitled, "Children Living With a Parent or CTROP".)

.04M

Blind or Disabled Children Living With a Parent or CTROP

Children discussed in this section are blind or disabled and the selection of category option applies - person under age 21 or dependent child, disabled, or blind. A blind or disabled child may apply as blind or disabled (BD) or as a member of the FAC unit (as an

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Schedule MA-8: Spousal Impoverishment Standards

Schedule MA-9-A: Period of Life Table

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Schedule MA-2

Medically Needy Resource Standards

Effective 7/1/89

Persons	Standard
1	\$2,500.00
2	\$3,000.00
3	\$3,100.00
4	\$3,200.00
5	\$3,300.00
6	\$3,400.00
7	\$3,500.00
8	\$3,600.00
9	\$3,700.00
10	\$3,800.00
Each Additional Person	\$100.00

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Schedule MA-2A

Categorically Needy Resource Standards

Aged, Blind, or Disabled

Effective	Individual	Couple
1/1/1986	\$1,700.00	\$2,550.00
1/1/1987	\$1,800.00	\$2,700.00
1/1/1988	\$1,900.00	\$2,850.00
1/1/1989	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00

Schedule MA-2B

Categorically Needy Resource Standard

Family and Children

Persons	Standard
1 or more	\$2,000.00

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Schedule MA 9-A

Period Life Table, 2000

Updated July 31, 2003

Exact Age	Male Life Expectancy	Female Life Expectancy	Exact Age	Male Life Expectancy	Female Life Expectancy
0	73.90	79.24	38	38.22	42.69
1	73.50	78.77	39	37.31	41.74
2	72.54	77.81	40	36.39	40.80
3	71.57	76.83	41	35.49	39.85
4	70.59	75.85	42	34.59	38.92
5	69.60	74.86	43	33.69	37.99
6	68.62	73.88	44	32.08	37.06
7	67.63	72.89	45	31.92	36.13
8	66.64	71.90	46	31.04	35.21
9	65.65	70.91	47	30.17	34.29
10	64.66	69.91	48	29.31	33.38
11	63.67	68.92	49	28.45	32.47
12	62.68	67.93	50	27.60	31.56
13	61.69	66.94	51	26.75	30.66
14	60.71	65.95	52	25.90	29.77
15	59.74	64.97	53	25.07	28.88
16	58.78	63.99	54	24.24	28.00
17	57.82	63.01	55	23.42	27.13
18	56.88	62.04	56	22.61	26.27
19	55.94	61.07	57	21.81	25.41
20	55.00	60.09	58	21.03	24.57
21	54.07	59.12	59	20.25	23.73
22	53.15	58.15	60	19.48	22.90
23	52.22	57.18	61	18.73	22.08
24	51.30	56.20	62	17.98	21.28
25	50.37	55.23	63	17.25	20.48
26	49.44	54.26	64	16.54	19.70
27	48.50	53.29	65	15.84	18.93
28	47.56	52.31	66	15.16	18.18
29	46.62	51.34	67	14.50	17.44
30	45.68	50.37	68	13.86	16.71
31	44.74	49.40	69	13.23	16.00
32	43.80	48.44	70	12.61	15.29
33	42.87	47.47	71	12.01	14.59
34	41.93	46.51	72	11.42	13.91
35	41.00	45.55	73	10.84	13.23
36	40.07	44.59	74	10.28	12.57
37	39.14	43.64	75	9.73	11.92

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Schedule MA 9-A
Period Life Table, 2000
Updated July 31, 2003

Exact Age	Male Life Expectancy	Female Life Expectancy	Exact Age	Male Life Expectancy	Female Life Expectancy
76	9.20	11.29	98	2.21	2.55
77	8.68	10.67	99	2.10	2.40
78	8.18	10.07	100	1.99	2.26
79	7.69	9.49	101	1.88	2.12
80	7.23	8.92	102	1.78	1.99
81	6.78	8.37	103	1.68	1.87
82	6.35	7.85	104	1.58	1.75
83	5.94	7.34	105	1.49	1.63
84	5.55	6.86	106	1.40	1.52
85	5.18	6.40	107	1.32	1.42
86	4.84	5.96	108	1.24	1.32
87	4.52	5.54	109	1.16	1.23
88	4.21	5.15	110	1.09	1.14
89	3.93	4.78	111	1.02	1.05
90	3.67	4.44	112	0.95	0.97
91	3.42	4.12	113	0.89	0.90
92	3.20	3.83	114	0.82	0.82
93	2.99	3.56	115	0.76	0.76
94	2.80	3.31	116	0.71	0.71
95	2.63	3.09	117	0.65	0.65
96	2.48	2.89	118	0.60	0.60
97	2.34	2.72	119	0.55	0.55

(Note: See for updates: www.ssa.gov/OACT/STATS)