TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF

FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA
JOSEPH E. DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OOE, DHMH

RE: MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM AND EXPEDITED
QMB/SLMB DETERMINATIONS

PROGRAMS AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

Summary:

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) has discovered that upon implementation of the Maryland Pharmacy Discount Program (MPDP) some customers were erroneously added to the Medicare Buy-In Program at DHMH. These customers have been identified by DHMH and will be instructed to apply for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)/Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program. Attached is a copy of the correspondence, which includes the procedures that DHMH has approved to expedite the QMB/SLMB application process. The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Coordinators, of the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), will assist with the process to expedite the applications.

Action Required:

Upon receipt of the QMB/SLMB application, LDSS case manager must review the green cover memo from the SHIP coordinator and expedite the eligibility decision. The cover memo will indicate the manner in which the application should be processed. They are as follows:

Some customers will only need to submit a completed and signed application, as DHMH has verified income and resource information previously through the MPDP application process. Additional verifications are not necessary and the case manager should screen, interview, process and finalize the application.

Other customers will need to submit a completed and signed application, along with
verification of income and/or resources. These applications would follow the normal processing procedure. The case manager must review and request all necessary verifications before finalization of the application.

**Inquiries:**

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Cathy Croghan-Sturgill at 410-238-1247 or Barbara Washington at 410-767-1480.

Attachments:
Letter to Affected Customers
Memo to SHIP Coordinators
SHIP LDSS Transmittal Memo for QMB/SLMB Applications

cc: DHMH Executive Staff
DHMH Management Staff
DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
DHR Help Desk