

 FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	FIA INFORMATION MEMO
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**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