



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration
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
JILL SPECTOR, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OES**

**RE: CLOSURE OF MEDICAID COVERAGE GROUPS DUE TO
ENROLLMENT IN THE EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
PROGRAM**

PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICES

SUMMARY: On October 1, 2008 the Maryland Medical Assistance Program implemented the new Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program. The EID program grants Medical Assistance eligibility to working disabled individuals (and their spouse if living together) if they earn up to 300% FPL and their assets do not exceed \$10,000. Certain retirement accounts including 401(k)s, 403(b)s, pension plans, and Keogh plans are not counted. Participants in the program may be billed a monthly premium based on their income.

When the Division of Eligibility Waiver Services (DEWS) determines eligibility for the EID coverage group, S13-D, DEWS will close cases in CARES for recipients who are currently enrolled in other Medicaid coverage groups. Although the majority of case closures will be for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary and Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (QMB/SLMB) coverage groups, it is expected that DEWS will also close cases for other Medicaid coverage groups, such as spend-down. A CARES-generated closing letter will notify recipients that their benefits under other coverage groups will end and they will now receive Medical Assistance benefits through the EID program.

The Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) Case Manager will receive a CARES 745 alert, initiated by DEWS, identifying the case that is being closed and replaced by EID eligibility for the individual. If the EID recipient fails to pay the premium or no longer meets eligibility requirements for EID, the LDSS Case Manager will receive a CARES 745 alert to advise that the EID case is closed. If there is time left in the original certification period, the Case Manager may reopen the individual's case in the original coverage group without a new application.

INQUIRIES:

For policy questions, contact the DHMH Division of Eligibility Policy at 410-767-1463 or 1-800-492-5231 (select option 2 and request extension 1463).

Direct all questions concerning the payment of Medicare premiums to the DHMH Medicare Buy-in Program at 410-767-5376.

For CARES questions call the DHMH Systems Interface Unit at 410-238-1363.

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