DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 10-12, VERIFICATION OF VETERANS' BENEFITS

DATE: 11/28/12

SUBJECT: Verification of Veterans' Benefits

DISTRIBUTION: County Directors of Social Services Medicaid Supervisors Medicaid Eligibility Staff

I. BACKGROUND

Change Notice 17-12 announced that effective November 1, 2012 the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs would no longer verify veterans' benefits. Counties were instructed to verify benefits through the United States Division of Veterans Affairs regional office in Winston-Salem. The Winston-Salem Regional Office has indicated that they will not verify veterans' benefits and such requests must be sent to the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

To verify veterans' benefits, fax the revised DMA-5027 (<u>attachment a1</u>) to United States Division of Veterans Affairs, Philadelphia Regional Office and Insurance Center, fax number (215) 381-3191, attention Gary Hodge. Caseworkers must provide their name, a direct phone number and a fax number for return of the form. In addition to faxing the DMA-5027 to USDVA, ask the applicant/beneficiary for the latest VA award letter.

When the DMA-5027 has not been returned within the 45/90 day processing period, the award letter can be used to verify the gross benefit amount (the award letter will not contain a break down of the benefit components). If the applicant/beneficiary has not provided the award letter, accept the applicant/beneficiary's statement regarding the benefit amount. If the verification is returned after an ABD case has been authorized and indicates a different benefit amount, react to the change.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This policy is effective immediately. Apply these procedures to applications and redeterminations presently in process as well as those taken or due after the date of this letter.

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

Michael Watson Director

(This material was researched and written by William Appel, Policy Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit)