CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 14-03, Parental Financial Responsibility in MPW

Manual: Family and Children's Medicaid

Change No: 14-03

To: County Directors of Social Services

Effective: October 1, 2002

I. POLICY CHANGES:

A. Application of Parental Financial Responsibility in Determining Eligibility in MPW

A provision of the State budget changes policy for MPW:

- 1. Except as stated in 2., count the income of the parent(s) as available to the pregnant woman under age 21 who lives:
 - a. In the home of her parent(s) or is temporarily absent, or
 - b. Outside of the home and is a student, unless evidence is presented to establish that the student is not financially dependent upon her parent(s) and has assumed total responsibility for her own support and care.
- 2. Exceptions to parental financial responsibility:
 - a. Do not count income of parents who receive SSI, Work First, or CAP as being available to pregnant women under 21.
 - b. Do not count the income of a parent as available to a pregnant woman under age 21 who:
 - (1) Is or has been legally married,
 - (2) Lives outside the parent(s)' home in excess of 12 months or intends to be outside the home on a permanent basis,
 - (3) Is budgeted under long term care policy because she will be out of the home in a Medicaid certified institution in excess of 12 months,
 - (4) Has served in or is currently in the military, or
 - (5) Has been legally emancipated.
- 2. If the parents are included in the budget unit, include their other children under 21 who also live in the home in the needs unit.

B. Corrections Related to Child Support Referrals for Unborn Children

Policy in MA-3300, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting, is corrected to indicate that child support referrals are not to be made to establish paternity or support for unborn children. Pregnant women are not required to cooperate with Child Support Enforcement (IV-D) for their unborn children. (Refer to MA-3365, Child Support, III.C.1., and MA-3240, Pregnant Women Coverage, II.A.11., and III.A.4.) Therefore, no IV-D referral should be made for an unborn child.

C. Clarifications Related to Evaluations of MPW Recipients at the End of the Post Partum Period

Policy in MA-3240, Pregnant Woman Coverage, and in MA-3420, Re-Enrollment, is revised to make it clear that prior to the end of the post partum period a reenrollment must be completed. This re-enrollment follows MAF re-enrollment policy.

D. Miscellaneous Changes

- In MA-3240, Pregnant Woman Coverage, MA-3305, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting, MA-3420, Re-Enrollment, and MA-3425, Certification and Authorization, clarifications were added that recipients may not be terminated unless they have been evaluated for eligibility under all aid program/ categories.
- 2. MA-3305, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting, was revised to agree with MA-3240 that a verbal request for termination is acceptable. However, the case must be sent a timely notice instead of the adequate notice allowed with a written request.
- 3. MA-3420, Re-Enrollment, currently says when a person is listed on a mail-in review form but is not a recipient, he must be evaluated for all coverage including MAABD. However, if the person is only eligible for MAABD, he has not completed an MAABD application. If the person is ineligible in any Family and Children's aid program/category, but may be eligible in an Aged, Blind, or Disabled aid program/category, the person should be referred to make an MAABD application.
- 4. An instruction is added to MA-3420, Re-Enrollment, to evaluate the child of a formerly pregnant woman when re-enrolling her at the end of her post partum period.
- 5. MA-3420, Re-Enrollment, and MA-3425, Certification and Authorization, are revised to clearly indicate that when a case did not meet its deductible in the previous certification period, a re-enrollment must be conducted to determine if it is anticipated that the case will meet the deductible in the next certification period.
- 6. MA-3425, Certification and Authorization, is revised to state that when changes in situation occur that allow matching the certification periods of different cases, a case may be changed only at the next re-enrollment.
- 7. Throughout the revised sections, corrections were made to section numbers and titles.

II. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

Apply these changes to all pregnant women under age 21 applying for MPW on or after October 1, 2002.

III. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS

A. MA-3240, Pregnant Woman Coverage

Remove all of MA-3240. Insert attached <u>MA-3240</u> (entire section).

B. MA-3305, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting

Remove all of MA-3305. Insert attached MA-3305 (entire section).

C. MA-3310, MPW Budgeting

Remove all of MA-3310. Insert attached MA-3310. (entire section)

D. MA-3420, Re-Enrollment

Remove MA-3420. Insert attached <u>MA-3420</u> (entire section).

E. MA-3425, Certification and Authorization

Remove MA-3425. Insert attached <u>MA-3425</u> (entire section).

If you have any questions please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Nina M. Yeager Director

[This material was researched and written by Andy Wilson, Supervisor, Medicaid Eligibility Policy Unit.]