

CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL, NO. 02-04, Elimination of Parental Financial Responsibility for MPW

DATE: July 25, 2003

Manual: Family and Children's Medicaid
Change No: 02-04
To: County Directors of Social Services
Effective: August 1, 2003

I. BACKGROUND

In 2002 the approved State Budget changed Medicaid eligibility policy by requiring parental financial responsibility for pregnant women under 21 who apply for MPW. This policy change was issued by Family & Children's Change No. 14-03, effective October 1, 2002.

Federal Medicaid officials reviewed our State Plan amendment adopting this change. In correspondence dated July 3, 2003, they advised us that this change violates federal "Maintenance of Effort" requirements for NC Health Choice and continuing the policy jeopardizes the entire federal funding for NC Health Choice. Therefore, this policy change is being rescinded.

II. CONTENT OF CHANGE

MA-3310, MPW Budgeting, is changed to exclude parents' income when determining eligibility for a pregnant woman under 21.

MA-3305, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting, V.A. is changed to put back a reference to parental financial responsibility not applying in MPW. This reference was deleted in FC Change No. 14-03.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

The manual is updated effective August 1, 2003. However, the policy is effective upon receipt retroactive to October 1, 2002.

A. Applications

For any applications in process or taken on or after receipt of this change, do not count the income of the parents of a pregnant woman under age 21 when determining her eligibility for MPW.

B. Ongoing Cases

For any reviews of Medicaid cases that are in process or that begin on or after receipt of this change, in which you learn that a current Medicaid recipient is pregnant, do not apply parental financial responsibility when determining if she is eligible for MPW.

C. Applications Denied Since October 1, 2002

Because parental financial responsibility has been rescinded back to October 1, 2002, we will identify all applicants denied benefits since October due to parental financial responsibility. Further instructions regarding these cases will be issued via an administrative letter.

IV. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL

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

Remove MA-3305, MAF, MIC, HSF Budgeting, pages 13 & 14.
Insert attached [MA-3305](#), pages 13 & 14, which are effective August 1, 2003.

B. MA-3310, MPW Budgeting

Remove MA-3310, MPW Budgeting.
Insert attached [MA-3310](#), which is effective August 1, 2003.

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

Gary Fuquay
Interim Director

(This material was researched and written by Andy Wilson, Project Coordinator, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.)