

# CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 03-05, MEDICARE BUY-IN & REQUIREMENT TO ENROLL IN MEDICARE PART B

**DATE: JUNE 25, 2004**

**Manual:** Family and Children's Medicaid  
**Change No:** 03-05  
**To:** County Directors of Social Services  
**Effective:** July 1, 2004

## **I. BACKGROUND**

In its last session the General Assembly passed a provision in the Appropriation Act, which requires Medicaid recipients who are age 65 or over to enroll in Medicare Part B (Session Law 2003-284, §10.17). Effective July 1, 2004, if a recipient over age 65 is not enrolled in Medicare Part B, Medicaid will not pay any portion of the cost of medical services that would have been covered by Medicare Part B. The provider may bill the recipient for the full cost of the services provided.

A notice was included with all June Medicaid ID cards advising current recipients of this change. A [copy of the notice](#) is attached.

## **II. CONTENT OF CHANGE**

### **A. Medicare Enrollment Requirement**

MA-3525, *Medicare Buy-In*, is renamed *Medicare Enrollment and Buy-In*. Explanation of the requirement for Medicaid recipients who are age 65 or over to enroll in Medicare Part B is added. Additionally, instructions are included for the worker to notify the client of the requirement at application and when the "age 65" special message appears on the case management report.

### **B. Additional Changes**

MA-3525, *Medicare Enrollment and Buy-In*, is completely reissued. It has been revised to delete obsolete information and describe current buy-in procedures. Additionally, it has been reorganized to follow the NC Fast policy simplification initiative.

## **III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

This change is effective July 1, 2004. However, upon receipt of this policy, you should begin notifying applicants and recipients during the application and redetermination process regarding the requirement to enroll in Medicare Part B.

**IV. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL**

- A. Remove MA-3525, Procedures for Medicare Buy-In, and all figures.**
- B. Insert attached [MA-3525, Medicare Enrollment & Buy-In](#), effective 07/01/04 and figures 1 through 8.**

[Figure 1](#)

[Figure 2](#)

[Figure 3](#)

[Figure 4](#)

[Figure 5](#)

[Figure 6](#)

[Figure 7](#)

[Figure 8](#)

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

Gary H. Fuquay  
Director

[This material was researched and written by Jane S. Johnson, Andy Wilson and Charlotte Gibbons.]