



Department of Human Resources  
311 West Saratoga Street  
Baltimore MD 21201

**FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION  
ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

Control Number: #10-28 (Revised)

Effective Date: Upon Receipt  
Issuance Date: May 5, 2010

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE  
OFFICERS, DEPUTY / ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY  
INVESTMENT, FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND  
ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

**FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA  
DEBBIE RUPPERT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OES**

**RE: NEW QMB/SLMB RESOURCE STANDARDS**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICES**

**SUMMARY:**

The Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) mandated changes to match the resource limits for individuals eligible for the full Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) program benefits under Medicare Part D with those allowed for individuals who are also eligible for Medical Assistance eligibility under the QMB/SLMB Program. (See 2010 Income/Assets Guidelines chart, and revised QMB/SLMB application, attached.)

**Effective January 1, 2010**, resource limit for the QMB/SLMB Program increased to \$8,100 for an individual and \$12,910 for a couple (includes a standard \$1,500 burial credit). In addition, the cash value of life insurance is disregarded.

**Effective January 1, 2010**, there is no requirement for applicants to submit documentation for the resources that are listed on the QMB/SLMB application, unless questionable. Income will continue to be verified through the current process using SVES, SOLQ or MABS.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

**A. Processing QMB/SLMB-Only applications or redeterminations:**

Until CARES can be reprogrammed with the new asset standards, use the following special procedure for coverage groups S03, S07, and S14:

- Calculate all countable assets (excluding life insurance) off-line using the attached QMB/SLMB Resource Worksheet.
- If the assets are within the new asset standard (\$8,100 individual, \$12,910 couple), enter into CARES only the portion of the asset amount, excluding any life insurance value, that is equal to or below the old standard (\$4,000 individual, \$6,000 couple). Include the full amount, with explanation, in narration. Add the following text to the notice to the customer:

YOUR TOTAL RESOURCES, \$-----, ARE WITHIN THE CURRENT STANDARD. FOR TECHNICAL REASONS, THE TEXT OF THIS APPROVAL NOTICE MENTIONS ONLY THE PORTION OF YOUR ASSETS THAT IS EQUAL TO OR BELOW THE PRIOR STANDARD.

- If assets (excluding life insurance) are greater than the new standard (\$8100 individual, \$12,910 couple), enter the actual amount so that CARES will deny for over scale assets. **You must override the system-generated notice and send the attached "Explanation of Ineligibility Due to Excess Resources" letter.**

Until CARES can be reprogrammed to eliminate the former limit on cash value of life insurance:

- For QMB/SLMB cases only, do not enter life insurance policy information on CARES. Enter the life insurance policy information on the QMB/SLMB Resource Worksheet and narrate the information on CARES.
- At redetermination, remember to eliminate the life insurance value before assets are calculated.

**B. Processing an application for Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) and QMB/SLMB:**

- If an application is received for ABD and the customer is Medicare eligible, pend the application in the following two coverage groups: 1) S98 ABD coverage group and 2) S03 QMB/SLMB coverage group.
- Process the S98 ABD case **first** with the correct asset and life insurance information entered on CARES to allow the correct eligibility determination and CARES notices to be processed.
- If the S98 case is denied for over scale assets, **remove** the asset and life insurance information and then process the S03 case using the "QMB/SLMB-Only applications or redeterminations" process, as outlined above.
- If the S98 case goes into spend-down, **leave** all asset information which has been entered and process the S03 case. (Because the asset limit for ABD is

lower than the prior QMB/SLMB asset limit, these fields will not need to be changed.) **REMINDER: PLEASE NARRATE.**

**INQUIRIES:**

Please direct Medical Assistance policy questions to the DHMH Division of Eligibility Policy at 410-767-1463 or 1-800-492-5231 (select option 2 and request extension 1463), Medicare Buy-In Program questions to (410) 767-5376 or 1-800-638-3403; and CARES questions to 410-238-1363.

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

# QMB/SLMB RESOURCE WORKSHEET

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOH Client ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AU Number: \_\_\_\_\_

List Total Assets owned by applicant and/or spouse. Remember to exclude all Life Insurance policies for QMB and SLMB. Do not enter Life Insurance on CARES.

OWNER	TYPE	VALUE (Full, Face, Cash)	Unavailable/ Encumbered	Countable Value

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ - \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Countable Resources: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Resource Limit for Individual = \$8,100: - \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Resource Limit for Couple = \$12,910: or - \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Excess Resource: = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Resource Limits include a \$1500 Burial Credit**

**Note:** If over Resource Standard, enter actual amount onto the AST1 screen.