

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR MANUAL RELEASES

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
BENEFICIARY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF ELIGIBILITY SERVICES
300 WEST PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

MANUAL: Medical Assistance

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Receipt

RELEASE NO: MR-109

APPLICABILITY: QMB/SLMB Standards
MA Recoveries

ISSUED: March 5, 2003

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Chapter 3, QMB/SLMB Income Limits	Appendix A	Appendix A
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COMMENTS

Manual Release MR-109 contains the QMB/SLMB income standards, effective April 1, 2003. Apply the new standards to any application or redetermination dated April 1, 2003 or after. The COLA disregard will be removed from CARES effective April 30, 2003 via mass modification.

Manual Release MR-109 also contains the provision, effective March 3, 2003, that the Department may not seek recovery from the estate of a deceased individual for MA payments of Medicare premiums, co-payments, or deductibles as a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary or Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary.

APPENDIX A

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Table 1

OMB INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/03	Individual	Couple
Annual	\$8,980.00	\$12,120.00
Monthly	\$ 749.00	\$ 1,010.00

Table 2

SSI PAYMENT RATE

Effective 1/1/03	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$552.00	\$829.00

APPENDIX A

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Table 3

SLMB INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/03	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$750 - \$897	\$1011 - \$1,211

Table 4

SLMB II INCOME STANDARDS

Effective 4/1/03	Individual	Couple
Monthly	\$898 - \$1,010	\$1,212 - \$1,363

Introduction

The Department has the right to make a claim against a recipient's income and/or resources under several circumstances. These circumstances are:

1. A court order exists which permits the Department to take such action.
2. MA benefits have been paid pending an appeal hearing.
3. A third party may be responsible for medical expenses as a result of a lawsuit or other legal action.
4. The recipient is deceased and received MA benefits at 55 or over.
5. A recipient voluntarily reimburses the Program for expenditures.
6. Health insurance coverage is available to cover expenses paid by the Department.
7. An institutionalized person owns real property against which a lien may be placed.

The Department may not seek recovery from the estate of the deceased individual for Medical Assistance payments of Medicare premiums, co-payments, or deductibles as a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary or Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary.

Claims against a recipient's income and/or resources are made by the Division of Recoveries and Financial Services (Recoveries). This unit is responsible for carrying out all activities to make claims

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Corrected 1/03



Effective
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and recoveries on behalf of the Department; however, the activities of Recoveries must be coordinated with those of the LDSS. The LDSS is responsible for reporting complete information to Recoveries to enable that unit to pursue claims and recoveries. The extent to which claims and recoveries are made and the appropriateness of certain legal actions are the responsibility of Recoveries.

Court Order

A court order permitting recovery may exist because of a determination that the Program has paid benefits on behalf of a person that should not have been paid or would have been paid in a lesser amount had the applicant/recipient or representative accurately provided required information and reported changes in a timely manner.

It is the responsibility of the LDSS to report any incident in which income, resources or other factors that could affect eligibility have been:

- unreported,
- reported in an untimely manner, or
- erroneously reported.

The LDSS must report such incidents on the DHMH 4243, Referral for Investigation. Division of Field Investigations (DFI) will decide what action is appropriate based on its findings. Criminal or Civil action may be indicated, or an agreement may be reached

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