

CHAPTER M15

ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

M15 Table of Contents Changes

Changed With	Effective Date	Pages Changed
TN #DMAS-13	7/1/19	Table of Contents
TN #100	5/1/15	Table of Contents
TN #99	1/1/14	Table of Contents

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2019
Subchapter Subject M15 ENTITLEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES	Page TOC i	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

M15 ENTITLEMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

	SUBCHAPTER	Page
MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	M1510.000	
Medicaid Entitlement	M1510.100	1
Notice Requirements.....	M1510.200	9
Follow-up Responsibilities.....	M1510.300	11
 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)		
ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	M1520.000	
General Principles.....	M1520.001	1
Partial Review	M1520.100	2
Renewal Requirements.....	M1520.200	5
MA Cancellation or Services Reduction	M1520.300	12
Extended Medicaid Coverage	M1520.400.....	15
Case Transfers.....	M1520.500.....	24
 APPENDICES		
Renewal Process Reference Guide	Appendix 1.....	1
Twelve Month Extended Medicaid Income Limits.....	Appendix 2.....	1
 DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DBHDS)		
FACILITIES	M1550.000	
General Principles.....	M1550.100.....	1
Facilities	M1550.200.....	1
Medicaid Technicians	M1550.300.....	2
Case Handling Procedures	M1550.400.....	3

CHAPTER M15
ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES
SUBCHAPTER 10

MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT

M1510 Changes

Page 1 of 2

Changed With	Effective Date	Pages Changed
TN #DMAS-31	4/1/24	Pages 7 and 8
TN #DMAS-30	1/1/24	Page 1, 2a, 8a,
TN #DMAS-24	7/1/22	Pages 8, 9a, 12-14
TN #DMAS-22	1/1/22	Page 8a Page 8 is a runover page.
TN #DMAS-21	10/1/21	Page 9a
TN #DMAS-19	4/1/21	Pages 6, 8
TN #DMAS-18	1/1/21	Pages 2b, 9, 12
TN #DMAS-17	7/1/20	Page 15
TN #DMAS-16	4/1/20	Pages 5, 6, 12, 13 Pages 14 and 15 are runover pages.
TN #DMAS-14	10/1/19	Pages 2b, 4, 5-7
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TN #DMAS-11	1/1/19	Page 7

M1510 Changes**Page 2 of 2**

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TN #DMAS-10	10/1/18	Pages 7, 8a, 9a, 14 Pages 8b and 8c are runover pages.
TN #DMAS-9	7/1/18	Table of Contents Page 5. Page 9a was added.
TN #DMAS-8	4/1/18	Pages 2, 8a, 8b Page 8c was added.
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TN #DMAS-4	4/1/17	Pages 2a, 10
TN #DMAS-2	1/1/17	Table of Contents Pages 1, 8, 8a, 12-15 Page 11a was deleted.
TN #DMAS-2	10/1/16	On pages 3-15, corrected the subchapter number in the headers. Neither the dates nor the policies were changed.
TN #DMAS-1	6/1/16	Pages 2 Pages 1 and 2a are runover pages.
TN #100	5/1/15	Table of Contents Pages 1-2a, 5-8b
UP #10	5/1/14	Table of Contents Pages 7-8a Page 8b was added.
TN #99	1/1/14	Table of Contents Pages 1, 2, 8, 8a, 9-11 Page 11a was added.
UP #9	4/1/13	Pages 2-7, 10-12, 14
UP #7	7/1/12	Pages 8, 9
TN #96	10/01/11	Pages 8a, 10
TN #95	3/1/11	Table of Contents Pages 8, 11-15
TN #94	9/1/10	Pages 2a, 8-8a
TN #93	1/1/10	Page 6
Update (UP) #2	8/24/09	Page 11
TN #91	5/15/09	Page 14

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2018
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with TOC	Page i

TABLE OF CONTENTS

M15 ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

M1510.000 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT

	Section	Page
Medicaid Entitlement.....	M1510.100	1
Retroactive Eligibility & Entitlement.....	M1510.101	2a
Ongoing Entitlement	M1510.102	5
Hospital Presumptive Eligibility	M1510.103	8a
Disability Denials.....	M1510.104	8b
Foster Care Children	M1510.105	9
Delayed Claims	M1510.106	9
<i>Enrollment Changes</i>	<i>M1510.107</i>	<i>9a</i>
 Notice Requirements	 M1510.200	 10
 Follow-Up Responsibilities	 M1510.300	 12
Third Party Liability (TPL)	M1510.301	12
Social Security Numbers.....	M1510.302	15
Patient Pay Notification	M1510.303	15

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.100	Page 1

**M1510.000 ENTITLEMENT POLICY &
PROCEDURES M1510.100 MEDICAID
ENTITLEMENT**

A. Policy

An individual’s entitlement to Medicaid coverage is based on the individual meeting all nonfinancial and financial eligibility requirements for the individual’s covered group during a month covered by the application, as well as any additional entitlement policies that are applicable to the covered group.

1. Spenddown Met

If the applicant had excess income and met the spenddown within the month, he remains responsible for his spenddown liability and his coverage begin date cannot be any earlier than the date he met the spenddown. *Medically needy pregnant women who apply for and are enrolled in Medicaid on or before the date the pregnancy terminates are eligible until the end of the 12th month after the pregnancy ends. MN children are eligible for 12 months coverage after they are determined eligible. Income increases are excluded for these MN children and pregnant women.*

2. Individual is Deceased

If an application is filed on behalf of a deceased individual or the applicant dies during the application process, his eligibility is determined only for the days he was alive. He must have been eligible for Medicaid while he was alive in order to be entitled to enrollment in Medicaid. Any changes in the individual’s resources or income after his death do not affect the eligibility determination.

Example: An individual applies on July 23 for retroactive and ongoing Medicaid. The worker determines that the individual had excess resources (cash value of life insurance) throughout the retroactive period and the application month. The individual dies on August 5. The family asserts that he no longer owned the life insurance policies on August 5 and meets the resource requirements for the month of August. The worker determines that the individual owned the policies on the date of his death, the countable value exceeded the resource limit and he was not eligible for medical assistance on or before the date of his death.

3. Applicant Has Open MA Coverage in Another State

If an applicant indicates that he has been receiving Medical Assistance (MA--Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program) coverage in another state prior to moving to Virginia, instruct him to contact his eligibility worker there and request that his coverage be cancelled, if he has not already done so. He is no longer considered a resident of the other state once he has moved and intends to reside in Virginia, and he is no longer entitled to receive services paid for by the other state’s MA program. His enrollment may begin with the month of application or the earliest month in the application’s retroactive period that he met the residency requirement per M0230.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2018
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.100	Page 2

4. PARIS Match Data

The Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) is a Federal computer matching initiative that the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) participates in quarterly. VDSS participates in the data exchange with all active Medicaid enrollees and they are matched for the receipt of Veterans benefits and enrollment in multiple states' Medicaid programs. Each public assistance report is matched by social security number.

If a PARIS match is found, the worker will receive an alert in the Virginia Case Management System (VaCMS). The worker must evaluate all matches for current and ongoing eligibility and take appropriate case action within 30 days. Multiple matches must be assessed as a whole for the entire case. Workers must document findings in VaCMS under Case Comments. Procedures for researching and reporting PARIS matched individuals are found in the PARIS User Guide *available on the VDSS intranet*.

Once the evaluation of the match is completed and the case comments are documented, complete and send the Notice of Recipient Fraud/Non-Fraud Recovery (form #DMAS 751R), *located on the VDSS intranet*, to

Department of Medical Assistance Services
Recipient Audit Unit,
600 E. Broad Street, Suite 1300,
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The form may be faxed to 804-452-5472 or emailed to recipientfraud@dmass.virginia.gov.

The DMAS Program Integrity Division will conduct steps to complete the match and Benefit Impact Screen (BIS).

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.101	Page 2a

M1510.101 RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY & ENTITLEMENT

A. Definitions

1. Retroactive Period

The retroactive period is the three months immediately prior to the application month. Within this retroactive period, the individual may be Categorically Needy (CN) in one or two months and Medically Needy (MN) in the third month, or any other combination of classifications.

Retroactive Medicaid eligibility must be determined when an applicant for medical assistance indicates on the application that he, or anyone for whom he requests assistance, received a covered medical service within the retroactive period. The covered service may be listed by the applicant as an actual medical service on the application, or information on the application may indicate that a service was received, such as the birth of a child or Medicare coverage during the retroactive period.

2. Retroactive Budget Period

The "budget period" is the period of time during which an individual's income is calculated to determine income eligibility. The retroactive budget period depends on the individual's covered group.

B. Policy

An application for Medicaid or Auxiliary Grants (AG) is also an application for retroactive Medicaid coverage whenever the applicant reports that he/she received a Medicaid-covered service or had Medicare coverage in retroactive period. Eligibility for retroactive coverage is determined at the same time as the ongoing eligibility is determined, using the same application.

When an applicant reports that he/she, or anyone for whom he/she is applying, received a Medicaid covered service in any one of the three retroactive months, determine the applicant's eligibility for all three retroactive months, regardless of the service date. Determine nonfinancial, resource and income eligibility for each month in the retroactive period.

Pregnant women (with approved immigration status) who apply for and are enrolled in Medicaid on or before the date the pregnancy terminates are eligible until the end of the 12th month after the pregnancy ends. Children are eligible for 12 months coverage after they are determined eligible (at application and after each renewal). Income increases are excluded for these children and pregnant women.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2021
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.101	Page 2b

C. Budget Periods By Classification

1. CN

The retroactive budget period for CN covered groups (categories) is one month. CN eligibility is determined for each month in the retroactive period, including a month(s) that is in a prior spenddown that was not met. Do not determine eligibility for a retroactive month that was included in a previous Medicaid coverage period; the applicant has already received Medicaid for that month.

NOTE: There is never any retroactive eligibility or entitlement as a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) only. An individual who is eligible as Special Low-income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) or Qualified Disabled & Working (QDWI) can have retroactive coverage as an SLMB or QDWI.

2. MN

For the retroactive period, the **MN budget period is always all three months**. Unlike the retroactive CN period, the retroactive MN budget period may include a portion of a prior Medicaid coverage or spenddown period, and may also include months in which he is eligible as CN.

D. Verification

The applicant must verify all eligibility requirements in a retroactive month in order to be eligible for Medicaid coverage in that month.

Income verification from available electronic sources is acceptable for retroactive eligibility determinations provided that reasonable compatibility is met (see M0420.100 B.9). For all case actions effective October 26, 2019, if the income attested to by the applicant is within 10% of the income information obtained from electronic sources OR both sources are below the applicable income limit, *no additional verification is required*.

*If the attested income is under the income limit and the reasonable compatibility standard is not met, request verification of income and allow a minimum of 10 days to return. If the applicant meets a Medically Needy (MN) covered group, verification of income **is required** to determine spenddown liability.*

If the attested income is over the income limit and the individual does not meet a Medically Needy (MN) covered group, deny the application.

An applicant with a resource test must provide verification of resources held in the retroactive period.

An individual who provides proof of application for an SSN, after he applies for medical assistance, meets the application for SSN requirement in the three months retroactive to his medical assistance application.

If the applicant fails to verify any required eligibility factor for a retroactive month, coverage **for that month** must be denied because of failure to verify eligibility. If he verifies all eligibility factors for the other months in the retroactive period, he may be eligible for CN retroactive coverage for those months.

EXAMPLE #1: Ms. A applied for Medicaid for herself and her children on July 8. She reported receiving a Medicaid covered service in each retroactive month. The retroactive period is April 1 through June 30. She currently receives Unemployment Compensation as she lost her job in May. She provided all required verification for May and June, but did not provide income verification for April. Their application was approved for CN Medicaid coverage beginning May 1; April coverage was denied because of failure to verify income for April.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2013
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.101	Page 3

**1. Excess Income
In One or More
Retroactive
Months**

When an applicant has excess income in one or more of the retroactive months, he must verify that he met the nonfinancial and resource requirements in the month(s). He must verify the income he received in **all 3** retroactive months in order to determine his MN income or spenddown eligibility in the retroactive month(s).

If he fails to verify income in all three months, he CANNOT be eligible as MN in the retroactive period. His application for the retroactive months in which excess income existed must be denied because of failure to provide income verification for that month(s). However, coverage for the retroactive month(s) in which he was eligible as CN must be approved.

EXAMPLE #2: (Using July 2006 figures)

A parent of a child under age 19 applies for Medicaid in April. She requests retroactive coverage for the child's medical bills incurred in January, February and March, including a hospital stay in February. She also has unpaid medical bills (old bills) from December. The retroactive period is January - March.

The eligibility worker determines that the child met all the Medicaid nonfinancial requirements in the retroactive period, and that the countable income of \$3,250 per month in January and February exceeded the F&C, CN and the MN income limits. The income of \$800 starting March 1 is within the F&C CN income limit. The parent verifies that the resources in January, February were within the MN resource limit, but does not verify the March resources because the income is within the CN income limits.

The application is approved for retroactive coverage as CN beginning March 1 and for ongoing coverage beginning April 1. The child's spenddown liability is calculated for January and February. The eligibility worker deducts the old bills and the incurred medical expenses, and a spenddown liability remains. The retroactive Medicaid coverage is denied for January and February because the spenddown was not met.

**2. Excess Income
In All 3
Retroactive
Months**

When excess income existed in all classifications in all 3 retroactive months, the applicant must verify that he met all eligibility requirements in all 3 months. If he fails to verify nonfinancial, resource or income eligibility in any of the retroactive months, the retroactive period cannot be shortened and he CANNOT be placed on a retroactive spenddown. His application for retroactive coverage must be denied because of excess income and failure to provide eligibility verification for the retroactive period.

EXAMPLE #3: (Using July 2006 figures)

A parent of a child under age 19 applies for Medicaid in April. She requests retroactive coverage for the child's medical bills incurred in January, February and March, including a hospital stay in March. The retroactive period is January – March.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2019
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.101	Page 4

The worker verifies that the child met all the Medicaid nonfinancial requirements in the retroactive period, and that their countable income of \$3,250 in January, February and March exceeded the F&C CN and the MN income limits. The worker verifies that their resources in January and February were within the MN resource limits, but is unable to verify the resources for March.

The application is denied for retroactive coverage as CN Medicaid because of excess income and denied for MN spenddown because of failure to provide resource verification for all months in the retroactive period.

E. Disabled Applicants

If the applicant was not eligible for SS or SSI disability benefits during the retroactive period and the recipient alleges he/she was disabled during the retroactive period, follow the procedures in M0310.112 for obtaining an earlier disability onset date.

F. Excess Resources in Retroactive Period

If the applicant had excess resources during part of the retroactive period, retroactive resource eligibility exists only in the month(s) during which the resources were at or below the limit at any time within the month. The applicant's eligibility must be denied for the month(s) during which excess resources existed during the entire month.

EXAMPLE #4: (Using July 2006 figures)

Mr. A applied for Medicaid for himself on July 8. He reported receiving a Medicaid covered service in each retroactive month; no hospital service was received. The retroactive period is April 1 through June 30. He currently receives SS disability benefits of \$1500 per month and received SS disability of \$1500 monthly during the retroactive period. He is not eligible for Medicare Part A. His verified resources exceeded the MN limit in April and part of May; the resources were reduced to below the MN limit on May 20. He met the retroactive spenddown on April 5. His application was approved for retroactive MN coverage beginning May 1, and April coverage was denied because of excess resources.

G. Income Determination

Countable income for the applicant's unit is that income which was actually received *or determined reasonably compatible* in the three months prior to the application month.

1. Monthly Determination for CN

When an individual in the family unit meets a CN covered group, compare each month's countable income to the appropriate CN income limit for the month. When the countable income is within the CN income limit in the month, the CN individual meets the income eligibility requirement for that retroactive month. Enroll the eligible CN unit member(s) **for that month(s) only**, using the appropriate CN covered group program designation.

2. MN

When the family unit's *verified* countable income exceeds the CN income limit in one or more of the retroactive months, and all other

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2020
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.102	Page 5

Medicaid medically needy eligibility factors are met in that month(s), determine if the unit meets the MN income limit for the **3-month** retroactive budget period.

When the unit's countable income exceeds the MN limit for 3 months, place the unit on a spenddown for the month(s) in which excess income existed. See subchapter M1330 for retroactive spenddown eligibility determination policy and procedures.

H. Retroactive Entitlement

Retroactive coverage can begin the first day of the third month prior to application month if all eligibility requirements are met. An exception is eligibility for a newborn; coverage will be effective on the child's date of birth.

QMB-only coverage for new applicants or individuals with closed coverage who reapply outside a renewal reconsideration period cannot be retroactive.

The applicant is entitled to Medicaid coverage for only the month(s) in which all eligibility factors were met. If all factors except income were met in all the retroactive months, then the applicant is placed on spenddown for the retroactive period. **See subchapter M1330 to determine retroactive spenddown eligibility.**

1. Retroactive Coverage Begin Date

If the applicant is eligible for retroactive coverage, he is enrolled effective the first day of the month in which he met all eligibility factors. When excess income existed in a retroactive month(s), entitlement begins the date the retroactive spenddown was met.

2. Retroactive Coverage End Date

The Medicaid recipient's retroactive Medicaid coverage expires after the last day of the retroactive month(s) in which he was entitled to Medicaid.

3. Example

EXAMPLE #5: Mr. B applied for Medicaid for himself on July 8. He reported receiving a Medicaid covered service in each retroactive month. The retroactive period is April 1 through June 30. He met all eligibility requirements in the retroactive period. He is entitled to retroactive Medicaid coverage beginning April 1 and ending June 30.

M1510.102 ONGOING ENTITLEMENT

A. Coverage Begin Date

Ongoing Medicaid entitlement for all covered groups except the QMB group begins the first day of the application month when all eligibility factors are met at any time in the month of application. Exceptions:

- when an applicant has excess income;
- when the applicant is eligible only as a QMB;
- when the applicant is age 21-64 years and is admitted to an institution for mental diseases (IMD);
- when the individual is incarcerated (see M0140.200.C.1 and M0140.300.D);
- for a newborn, coverage will begin on the child's date of birth.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2021
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.102	Page 6

- 1. Applicant Has Excess Income**

When all eligibility requirements are met except for income, entitlement begins the date the spenddown is met. Only medically needy applicants can be eligible after meeting a spenddown. See subchapter M1330 to determine retroactive spenddown eligibility.
- 2. QMB Applicant**

Entitlement to Medicaid for QMB coverage begins the first day of the month **following** the month in which the individual's QMB eligibility is determined and approved, **not** the month of application. QMB-only coverage for new applicants or individuals with closed coverage who reapply outside a renewal reconsideration period cannot be retroactive.

EXAMPLE #6: Ms. C is 55 years old and is disabled. She applied for Medicaid on May 8, 2019, and requested retroactive coverage. She began receiving Medicare in May 2019. She is approved for QMB coverage on June 9; therefore, her QMB coverage will begin on July 1. She is eligible to receive coverage in the MAGI Adults covered group for the retroactive months of February, March, and April. However, she is not eligible for MAGI Adults coverage in May or June due to her Medicare enrollment. QMB eligibility cannot extend to the retroactive period (see M1510.101.H). If she did not opt out of Plan First, she should be enrolled in Plan First coverage for May and June, 2019.
- 3. SLMB and QDWI**

Ongoing entitlement for the Special Low Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) and the Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI) covered groups is the first day of the application month when all eligibility factors are met at any time in the month of application.
- 4. Applicant Age 22 or Over, But Under Age 65 Is Admitted To An IMD and Discharged From the IMD While the Application is Pending**

If an **applicant** *who is age 22 or over, but under age 65 is admitted to an IMD and discharged from the IMD while the application is pending, Medicaid entitlement begins the first day of the application month (or retroactive month, if applicable) as long as he meets all other Medicaid eligibility requirements.*

EXAMPLE #6a: Mr. A is a 50 year old man who applies for Medicaid at his local agency on October 1, 2020. He was admitted to an IMD on October 20, 2020, and was discharged from the IMD on November 2, 2020, back to his home locality. The agency completes the Medicaid determination on November 5 and finds that he is eligible for Medicaid in October 2020. The worker enrolls him in Medicaid beginning October 1, 2020.
- 5. Applications From Current IMD Patients Age 22 or Over, But Under Age 65**

An **applicant** *who is who is age 22 or over, but under age 65 and who is currently in an IMD is not eligible for Medicaid while in the IMD. Process the application within the established time frames in M0130.100. Eligibility will be determined based on the type of living arrangement to which the patient will be discharged. If eligible, do not enroll the patient until the date the patient is discharged from the IMD.*

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2024
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.102	Page 7

If the patient is discharged from the facility and the patient meets all eligibility factors, the agency will enroll the patient effective the date of discharge.

EXAMPLE #6b: Mr. A is a 50 year old patient at Central State Hospital (an IMD). He receives Social Security disability benefits. The CSB sends his local agency a Medicaid application which is received on August 18. The facility's statement notes that he will be discharged on September 17 to ABC Nursing Home, a nursing facility. The agency completes the determination on August 27 and finds that he will be eligible once he is discharged to the nursing facility.

The agency does not enroll Mr. A until the discharge is confirmed. The CSB case manager calls the agency on September 21 and informs the agency that the patient was discharged to the ABC Nursing Home on September 18. The patient is enrolled in Medicaid with a begin date of September 18.

**6. Offenders
(Incarcerated
Individuals)**

Individuals who meet all Medicaid eligibility requirements, including eligibility in a **full benefit** CN covered group, are eligible for Medicaid coverage limited to inpatient hospitalization while incarcerated. Enroll eligible MAGI Adults in aid category AC 108 and all other offenders in aid category AC 109 regardless of their covered group.

See M0140.000 regarding incarcerated individuals and M1520.102 for ongoing entitlement.

**6. MAGI Adult
Turns 65 or
Eligible for
Medicare**

When an individual enrolled in the Modified Adjusted Gross Income MAGI Adults covered group turns 65 years old, begins to receive Medicare or is eligible to receive Medicare, he is no longer eligible in the MAGI Adults covered group. Evaluate the individual for eligibility in an Aged, Blind or Disabled covered group. If the individual is not eligible in any other covered group, cancel his coverage following the policy in M1510.102 B below.

**B. Coverage End
Date**

Medicaid entitlement ends the last day of the month in which the recipient fails to meet all of the Medicaid eligibility requirements, unless the recipient is a CN pregnant woman or is age 22 or over, but under age 65 and was admitted to an IMD.

Medicaid coverage is canceled on the last day of the month in which the agency determines that the recipient no longer meets the eligibility requirements IF the agency can send an advance notice to the recipient at least 11 days before the last day of the month. If the agency cannot send the notice at least 11 days before the end of the month, coverage is canceled effective the last day of the next month.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2024
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.102	Page 8

1. **CN Pregnant Woman** After eligibility is established, a pregnant woman in any CN covered group continues to be eligible for Medicaid during the remainder of her pregnancy and for 12 months following the end of the month in which her pregnancy ends, regardless of any changes in family income, as long she continues to meet all non-financial criteria. If the woman becomes pregnant while she is in the 12 month coverage period, she is entitled to an additional 12 months of coverage following the end of the second pregnancy.

2. **Individual Admitted to Ineligible Institution Other than an IMD** Cancel coverage as soon as possible after learning of the enrollee’s admission to an ineligible institution. **DO NOT cancel coverage retroactively.** Cancel coverage effective the current date (date the worker enters the cancel transaction in the system).” **An Advance Notice of Proposed Action is not required.** Send a Notice of Action to the enrollee or his authorized representative informing him of the cancel date and the reason.

Note: An individual of any age who is **enrolled in Medicaid** at the time of admission to an **IMD** may remain enrolled in Medicaid. **Do not cancel coverage.** The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will coordinate with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure that no unauthorized FFP occurs for individuals age 22 years or over but under age 65 years.

3. **Spenddown Enrollees** Medicaid entitlement ends on the last day of the last month in the spenddown budget period, unless the individual’s or family’s circumstances change before that date.
Exceptions:
 - a. *Medically Needy Pregnant Woman*
Pregnant woman who meet a spenddown are entitled to MN coverage for 12 months following the end of the month in which the pregnancy ends.
 - b. *Medically Needy child*
After meeting s spenddown children under 19 receive 12 months of continuous eligibility unless they reach age 19; are no longer Virginia residents; the child or child’s representative requests eligibility be closed; the agency determines that eligibility was incorrectly approved because of agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to the child or the child's representative; or the child is deceased.

- C. **Ongoing Entitlement After Resources Are Reduced** When an applicant has excess resources throughout the application month, he is not eligible for Medicaid for the month of application. An applicant who reduces excess resources during the month of application or a subsequent month before action is taken on the application may become eligible in the month in which the value of his resources is reduced to, or below, the Medicaid resource limit. In order to reduce resources, the resources must actually be expended and the expenditure documented. (For example: a receipt, a canceled check, or a bank statement).

Reduction of resources is an asset transfer and must be evaluated under asset transfer policy (subchapter M1450). When excess resources are reduced, entitlement to ongoing Medicaid may begin no earlier than the first day of the month in which the resources were reduced to the Medicaid limit. When retroactive coverage is requested, policy in M1510.101 above must be followed.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.103	Page 8a

M1510.103 HOSPITAL PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY

A. Policy Individuals enrolled on the basis of Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) are covered by Medicaid beginning with the date of the HPE determination through the last day of the following month or the date MA eligibility is determined by an LDSS, whichever comes first. For their coverage to continue beyond the HPE enrollment period, they must submit a full MA application. If the individual does not submit an MA application, no further action is necessary on the part of the LDSS. See M0120.500 C.

B. Procedures When an HPE enrollee submits a full MA application and it is pended in VaCMS, the individual's coverage in the HPE AC is extended by the eligibility worker, as necessary, while the application is processed.

Applications submitted by pregnant women enrolled on the basis of HPE must be processed within 7 calendar days of the agency's receipt of the signed application. Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act (BCCPTA) applications submitted by individuals enrolled on the basis of HPE must be processed within 10 work days of the agency's receipt of the signed application.

1. Enrollment When an individual is determined eligible for MA coverage, his MA coverage under the appropriate MA AC includes any days to which he is entitled that are not already covered by HPE. If the individual submitted the MA application in the same month HPE coverage began and HPE began on any day other than the first day of the month, his MA coverage begins the first day of that month and the eligibility worker enrolls him in a closed period of coverage in the appropriate MA AC beginning with the first day of the month and ending the day before the HPE begin date. The worker is to enroll the eligible individual in ongoing coverage in the appropriate MA AC beginning the first day of the month after the effective date of the HPE coverage cancellation. See M0120.500 C.2

Children's 12 month continuous eligibility does not apply to children enrolled as HPE (unless they are found eligible for medical assistance after filing a full application).

2. Individuals Enrolled in HPE as Pregnant Women or in Plan First If an individual who was enrolled in HPE with partial coverage as a pregnant woman or in Plan First is determined eligible for full MA coverage in the period covered by HPE, cancel HPE coverage retroactively and reinstate in full coverage for the retroactive months and ongoing, if eligible. See M0120.500 C.2d

3. Retroactive Entitlement An individual's eligibility for retroactive coverage for the three months prior to the month of the MA application is determined when the individual had a medical service within the three months prior to the month of the full MA application. If the individual had full coverage while enrolled as HPE, only enroll him for the portion of the retroactive period that he was not enrolled as HPE. See M0120.500 C.2e

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2018
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.104	Page 8b

- 4. HPE Enrollee Not Eligible for Ongoing Coverage** If the applicant is determined to not be eligible for ongoing MA coverage, his entitlement to HPE coverage ends. Cancel the HPE coverage effective the current date (i.e. day of the eligibility determination). See *M0120.500 C.2f*

Send a Notice of Action indicating that the individual's MA application was denied and that his HPE coverage was cancelled with the effective date. The individual receives notice of the HPE coverage period from the hospital at the time of the HPE enrollment; advance notice of the HPE cancellation is not required. There are no appeal rights for HPE.

M1510.104 DISABILITY DENIALS

A. Policy

When an individual concurrently applies for SSI or SS and Medicaid as disabled, and either the DDS or the Social Security Administration (SSA) denies disability, the local social services department must deny the Medicaid application because the disability requirement is not met.

When an individual applies for Medicaid as disabled or concurrently applies for SS/SSI and Medicaid as disabled, and DDS denies disability, the local social services department must deny the Medicaid application because the disability requirement is not met.

B. Procedures

- 1. Subsequent SSA/SSI Disability Decisions** The SSA disability decision takes precedence over a DDS decision (DDS will make a decision before SSA if SSA does not take action within the 90-day Medicaid application processing time). If SSA denies disability and the decision is appealed and subsequently reversed, reopen and re-evaluate the denied Medicaid application as long as the disability onset month is prior to the month of application or is no later than 90 days after the month of application.
- 2. Use Original Application** The original application is used as long as the application was denied because the individual was not disabled and the subsequent disability onset month is no later than 90 days from the month of application.
- 3. Entitlement** If the re-evaluation determines that the individual is eligible, the individual's Medicaid entitlement is based on the Medicaid application date including the retroactive period if *available documentation verifies that* all eligibility requirements were met during the retroactive period. However, eligibility as a disabled individual cannot begin prior to the disability onset date when the disability onset date falls after the application date.
- 4. Renewal** If, based upon the re-evaluation, the individual is determined to be eligible and more than 12 months have passed since the application was filed, complete a *renewal* to determine whether or not the individual remains eligible.
- 5. Original Application Was Purged** Closed cases may be purged after at least three years from the application date have passed (see M0130.400). If the case record was purged, in the absence of agency knowledge regarding the original application date (e.g. an application log), accept the individual's attestation of the application date.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2018
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.104	Page 8c

Send the individual two application forms. Instruct the individual to complete one application according to his circumstances at the time of the attested original application date and the other application according to his current circumstances. Request verifications for the attested original application month and retroactive period, as well as the current application according to the renewal policy in M1520.200 A, in order to evaluate ongoing eligibility

If verifications from the attested application month and retroactive period cannot be obtained, eligibility cannot begin until the earliest month that the individual was both disabled and his eligibility can be verified.

6. Spenddown

If, based upon the re-evaluation, the individual is determined not eligible but met the requirements in Chapter M13 for placement on a spenddown, a first prospective and additional 6 month spenddown budget period(s) are established to cover the period of time between the date of application and the date action is taken on his case.

A new application is not required for each 6 month spenddown budget period leading up to the date of processing; however, verification of all income and resources for those time periods must be obtained.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2021
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.106	Page 9

M1510.105 FOSTER CARE CHILDREN

A. Policy Entitlement begins the first day of the month of commitment or entrustment IF a Medicaid application is filed within 4 months of the commitment or entrustment date.

If the Medicaid application is filed more than 4 months after entrustment or commitment, entitlement begins the first day of the application month if retroactive coverage is NOT requested.

B. Retroactive Entitlement If the Medicaid application is filed within 4 months of entrustment or commitment, retroactive eligibility exists only if the child met another covered group and all other Medicaid eligibility requirements in the retroactive period. If the Medicaid application is filed more than 4 months after entrustment or commitment, retroactive entitlement as a foster care child exists in the 3 months prior to Medicaid application. Entitlement cannot go back more than 3 months prior to the Medicaid application month.

M1510.106 DELAYED CLAIMS

A. When Applicable Medicaid will not pay claims from providers that are filed more than 12 months after the date the service was provided, unless the reason for the delayed filing was a delay in the enrollee's eligibility determination and enrollment. If the applicant is eligible for Medicaid and the coverage begin date is 12 months or more prior to the month during which the enrollee is enrolled on the Medicaid computer, the agency must write a letter for the applicant to give to all medical providers who will bill Medicaid for services provided over 1 year ago.

B. Eligibility Delay Letter Requirements The letter must:

- * be on the agency's letterhead stationery and include the date completed.
- * be addressed to the "Department of Medical Assistance Services, Claims Processing Unit."
- * state the enrollee's name and Medicaid recipient I.D. number.
- * state that "the claim for the service was delayed for more than one year because eligibility determination and enrollment was delayed."

C. Procedures The "eligibility delay" letter and a sufficient number of copies must be given to the enrollee to give to each provider who provided a covered medical service to the recipient over one year ago. The provider must attach the letter to the claim invoice in order to receive Medicaid payment for the service. If the date the letter was prepared by the agency is not included on the letter, the claim will be denied. If the individual was enrolled in a closed period of coverage, include the dates of coverage in the letter.

A sample eligibility delay letter is available at <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/Forms>.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2022
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.107	Page 9a

M1510.107 Enrollment Changes

D. Enrollment Changes

VaCMS is the MA eligibility system of record, however some enrollment functions can only be handled by the DMAS Eligibility and Enrollment Unit. The VaCMS and *MES (Medicaid Enterprise System (formerly MMIS))* systems **must** reflect correct coverage. Appropriate change requests include:

- Retroactive coverage that cannot be approved through VaCMS
- Duplicate linking
- Erroneous death cancellations
- Spenddown end-dates (if open-ended coverage was sent to *MES*)
- Missing newborn coverage
- Approved non-labor and delivery Emergency Services coverage
- Same day void
- Coverage corrections unable to be handled through VaCMS.

There may be instances when VaCMS should be able to successfully update the enrollment system but does not. When this occurs, the eligibility worker must follow the steps as listed below:

- First attempt to make the correction in VaCMS with the help of supervisors or other agency resources. If not successful;
 - Contact the VDSS Regional Practice Consultant (RC) for assistance. The RC will help the local worker make the correction in VaCMS. If not successful;
 - If either the agency resources or RC is unable to correct the enrollment in VaCMS, they can instruct the worker to submit a coverage correction to DMAS.
- The worker will complete a Coverage Correction Request Form (DMAS-09-1111-eng). The form can be found on the VDSS intranet. Follow the instructions as provided on the form.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2017
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.200	Page 10

M1510.200 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

A. Policy

Federal regulations in 42 CFR 431.206 through 431.214 require the agency to inform every applicant or enrollee in writing

- * of his right to a hearing;
- * of the method by which he may obtain a hearing; and
- * that he may represent himself or use legal counsel, a relative, a friend or other spokesperson.

The agency must provide the information required above at the time of any action affecting his claim for Medicaid benefits.

B. Notice of Action on Medicaid and Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan (FAMIS) Programs

A system-generated Notice of Action or the "Notice of Action on Medicaid and Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan (FAMIS) Programs" (Form 032-03-008) must be used to notify the applicant:

- * that his application has been approved and the effective date(s) of his Medicaid coverage.
- * that retroactive Medicaid coverage was approved and the effective dates.
- * that his application has been denied including the specific reason(s) for denial.
- * that retroactive Medicaid coverage was denied, including the specific reason(s) for denial.
- * of the reason for delay in processing his application.
- * of the status of his request for reevaluation of his application in spenddown status.

When additional information is necessary to clearly explain the case action, suppress the system-generated notice and send a manual notice containing the necessary information.

When the application was filed by the applicant's authorized representative, a copy of the notification must be mailed to the applicant's authorized representative.

1. CN Children or Pregnant Women

When the application of a medically indigent child or pregnant woman is denied because of excess income, the denial notice must state the reason for denial. The notice must also include the resource question pages from an MA application form and must advise the applicant of the following:

- a. that he/she may complete and return the enclosed form for a Medicaid spenddown to be evaluated, and
- b. if the information is returned within 10 days of this notice, the medically indigent application date will be used as the Medicaid spenddown application date.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2014
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.200	Page 11

2. Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries

a. Excess resources

When a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary's (QMB's) application for full benefit Medicaid coverage is denied because of excess resources, the denial notice must state that the applicant is not eligible for full Medicaid coverage because of excess resources.

b. Excess income

- 1) If the QMB's resources are within the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) limit but are over the MN limit, and the income exceeds the limit for full Medicaid coverage, the notice must state that the applicant is not eligible for QMB Medicaid because of excess income, and is not eligible for MN spenddown because of excess resources. The notice must specify the dollar amount of the appropriate MN resource limit.
- 2) If the QMB's resources are within the MN income limit, and income exceeds the limit for full Medicaid coverage, the notice must state that the applicant is not eligible for full-benefit Medicaid because of excess income, but that the applicant can become eligible by incurring medical or dental expenses that equal or exceed his excess income. The notice must specify the spenddown amount, the spenddown period begin and end dates, and include a copy of the Spenddown Fact Sheet.

3. Retroactive Entitlement Only or Limited Period of Entitlement

There are instances when an applicant is not eligible for ongoing Medicaid coverage but is eligible for retroactive benefits, or when a change in the applicant's situation during the application process results in the applicant being eligible for only a limited period of time. Only one written notice is sent to the applicant covering both actions. The begin and end dates of Medicaid coverage and the reason(s) for ineligibility must be included on this notice.

4. Example #7 Limited Period of Entitlement

A Medicaid application was filed on December 30. The client inherited real property on January 30. The agency processed the application on February 5 and determined the client was eligible for Medicaid for the months of December and January, but was ineligible for additional coverage beginning February because the countable value of the inheritance caused excess resources. One notice is sent to the applicant stating that his Medicaid application was approved beginning December 1 and ending January 31, and that he was denied coverage after January 31 because of excess resources (real property).

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2022
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.301	Page 12

M1510.300 FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITIES

M1510.301 THIRD PARTY LIABILITY (TPL)

A. Introduction

Medicaid is a “last pay” program and cannot pay any claim for service until the service provider has filed a claim with the recipient’s liable third parties such as health insurance companies or legally liable person. The procedures depend on the type of third party liability (TPL) the recipient has.

B. Private Health Insurance

Information on an eligible individual’s private health insurance coverage must be obtained and recorded in the case record and in VaCMS. This must include the company name (code number for the TPL file), the policy number, and the begin date of coverage. This information does NOT require verification.

Health insurance policy or coverage changes must be updated in VaCMS.

1. Verification Required - Policy or Coverage Termination

Verification of the date the health insurance policy and/or a coverage type terminated is required. The verification of the termination date can be a written letter from, or verbal statement by, the insurance company that states the termination date. If verification is obtained, the worker is to **end-date** the TPL coverage in VaCMS (note: do not delete the TPL from VaCMS).

Absent receipt of documentation showing that the TPL coverage has ended, it must be left open in VaCMS and *MES* and cannot be ended by the worker. If the worker is unable to obtain verification of the coverage termination date from the insurance company or the enrollee/authorized representative, the worker is to notify DMAS that the enrollee’s TPL coverage was terminated, but verification cannot be obtained. The notification should be sent via e-mail to: tplunit@dmas.virginia.gov. If it is determined that TPL coverage no longer exists, the coverage will be closed in *MES* by DMAS staff. The worker must then close the coverage in VaCMS.

2. Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)Program

If an applicant or enrollee reports that he or a family member is employed more than 30 hours each week and is eligible for health insurance coverage under an employer’s group health plan, he or she must be given a HIPP Fact Sheet which provides a brief description of the program and the contact information for the HIPP Unit at DMAS. The HIPP Fact Sheet is available at <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/References>.

If the enrollee opts to enroll in HIPP, update **VaCMS** with the TPL information when it is provided by the enrollee. Call the HIPP Unit at 1-800-432-5924 when an enrollee reports changes to the TPL information so that *MES* can be updated.

C. Medicare

Individuals are required to apply for coverage under Medicare A, B or D, or any combination of Medicaid A, B, and D, if it is likely that the individual would meet the eligibility criteria for any or all of those programs. The state agrees to pay any applicable premiums and cost-sharing (except those applicable under Part D) for individuals required to apply for Medicare.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2022
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.301	Page 13

Application for Medicare is a condition of eligibility unless the state does not pay the Medicare premiums, deductibles or co-insurance (except those applicable under Part D) for persons covered by the Medicaid eligibility group under which the individual is applying.

For persons age 65 or over, for persons under age 65 who have received SSA or Railroad Retirement benefits because of disability for 24 consecutive months, and for persons with chronic end-stage renal disease, the Department of Medical Assistance Services has a buy-in agreement with Medicare to provide to those eligible individuals who are also eligible for Medicare the medical services available under Medicare, Part B (Title XVIII of the Social Security Act) through payment of the Part B premium.

When the recipient has to pay a Medicare Part A premium, Medicaid will pay the Part A premium for

- all QMBs; the “dually-eligible” (those who are eligible in a CN or MN covered group and also are QMB), and the QMB-only (those QMBs who are not eligible for Medicaid in another covered group);
- Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI).

1. Buy-In Procedure

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services(CMS) maintains a current list of individuals for whom the State is paying the Part B premiums. The list is updated on a monthly basis by adding newly enrolled individuals and deleting those no longer eligible. Before CMS will admit an individual to the buy-in list for Part B coverage, the individual must have established his eligibility for Medicare. His name and claim number, if one has been assigned, must be identical to the information in the SSA files. A difference between the name and number in *MES* and in the SSA files results in a mismatch and rejection of Part B premium coverage.

2. Medicare Claim Numbers

Only two types of claim numbers correctly identify an individual's entitlement to Medicare coverage: a Social Security claim number or a Railroad Retirement claim number.

- a. SSA claim numbers consist of a nine-digit number followed by a letter, or a letter and numerical symbol. The most common symbols are T, M, A, B, J1, K1, D, W, and E.
- b. RR annuity-claim numbers have a letter (alpha) prefix followed by a six or nine digit number. The most common prefixes are A, M, H, WCD, NCA, CA, WD, WCH, and PD.
- c. Certain letters following nine digit numbers identify an individual as an SSI recipient and are not acceptable as a Medicare claim number. These claim symbols are AI, AS, BC, BI, BS, DC, DI, and DS.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2022
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.301	Page 14

3. Procedures for Obtaining Claim Numbers

a. Requesting Medicare Card

Each Medicaid applicant who appears to qualify for Medicare must be asked if he has applied for Medicare. Those that have applied and are eligible have received a white card with a red and a blue stripe at the top, with his name as it appears in the SSA files and the assigned claim number on the card. The name as it appears and the claim number must be included in the TPL section of the *MES* eligibility file maintained by *DMAS*.

b. Applicants Who Cannot Produce a Claim Number

In the event the applicant either does not have a Medicare card or does not know his claim number, inquire SSA via the SVES (State Verification Exchange System) using the applicant's own SSN.

If the applicant has never applied for Medicare, complete the Referral to Social Security Administration Form DSS/SSA-1 (form #032-03-099) and write in, "Buy-In" on the upper margin. Mail the form to the Social Security Office serving the locality in which the applicant resides. The SSA office will provide the correct claim number if the individual is on their records. Should the (local/area) SSA office have no record of an application for Medicare, a representative will contact the applicant to secure an application.

4. Buy-in Begin Date

Some individuals have a delay in Buy-in coverage:

Classifications	Buy-in Begin Date
SSI and AG recipients (includes dually-eligible)	1st month of eligibility
CN and MN with Medicare Part A who are dually-eligible as either Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB) or Special Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB Plus)	1st month of eligibility
CN and MN with no Medicare Part A or who are not dually-eligible as either QMB or SLMB Plus	3 rd month of eligibility

If the medically needy coverage begin date is other than the first day of a month, Buy-in is effective the first day of the month in which the 60th day after the begin date occurs.

D. Other Third Party Liability

When the agency identifies another third party which has responsibility to pay for a recipient's medical bill, the agency must report the third party to:

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2020
Subchapter Subject M1510 MEDICAID ENTITLEMENT	Page ending with M1510.303	Page 15

Department of Medical Assistance Services
Third Party Liability Section
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Examples of other third parties include liability insurance settlements, trust funds established for the recipient's medical care, awards resulting from liability lawsuits, and persons ordered by the court to pay for the recipient's medical care.

E. Pursuing Third Party Liability and Medical Support

In order to continue to be eligible for Medicaid, an individual who is required to assign rights to, and cooperate in, pursuing medical support and third party liability must continue to cooperate with the local agency and DMAS. See subchapter M0250 for details.

M1510.302 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

A. Policy

Applicants must provide the Social Security number (SSN) of any person for whom they request Medicaid, or must apply for a Social Security number if he/she does not have one.

Exceptions – the SSN requirement does not apply to:

- an alien who is eligible only for Medicaid payment of emergency services, as defined in subchapter M0220, or
- a non-citizen who is only eligible to receive an SSN for a valid non-work reason, or
- a child under age one born to a Medicaid-eligible or FAMIS-covered mother (see M0330.301 B. 2 and M2220.100).

An individual who is applying only for others and is not applying for himself is not required to provide an SSN for himself.

When an individual has applied for an SSN and is determined eligible for medical assistance, the worker must take follow-up action to obtain the individual's SSN.

B. Procedures

See subchapter M0240 for the SSN application follow-up procedures required after enrolling an eligible individual who has applied for an SSN.

M1510.303 PATIENT PAY INFORMATION

A. Policy

After an individual in long-term care is found eligible for Medicaid, the recipient's patient pay must be determined. When the patient pay amount is initially established or when it is changed, the worker enters the information in VaCMS. VaCMS sends the Notice of *Patient Pay Responsibility* to the enrollee or the enrollee's authorized representative.

B. Procedure

When patient pay increases, the Notice of *Patient Pay Responsibility* is sent in advance of the date the new amount is effective.

CHAPTER M15
ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

SUBCHAPTER 20

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

M1520 Changes

Page 1 of 2

Changed With	Effective Date	Pages Changed
TN #DMAS-31	4/1/24	Pages 15 and 16
TN #DMAS-30	1/1/24	Pages 3, 10, 10a, 13, 14, 18
TN #DMAS-29	10/1/23	Pages 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 14, 15
TN #DMAS-28	7/1/23	Pages 1, 2, 2a, 4, 7, 8, 8a, 12, 13, 14 ; Appendix 2
TN #DMAS-27	4/1/23	Page 1, 15, 24a
TN #DMAS-26	1/1/23	Pages 15 and 24a
TN #DMAS-24	7/1/22	Pages 1, 3, 10 Pages 2 and 11 are a runover pages.
TN #DMAS-23	4/1/22	Pages 10, 11, 12, 13, 26, 27, 30 Appendix 2, page 1
TN #DMAS-22	1/1/22	Page 14
TN #DMAS-21	10/1/21	Pages 6, 12
TN #DMAS-20	7/1/21	Pages 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14 Page 2a is a runover page. Page 6a was added as a runover page
TN #DMAS-19	4/1/21	Appendix 2
TN #DMAS-18	10/1/19	Pages 1, 4, 4a, 5, 11, 13 Content that was inadvertently deleted in a previous transmittal was restored. No policy was revised.
TN #DMAS-17	7/1/20	Pages 2, 4, 25, 30 Page 3 is a runover page.
TN #DMAS-16	4/1/20	Pages 3, 4, 7, 9 Appendix 2 Pages 3a and 4 were renumbered to pages 4 and 4a. Page 4a is a runover page.
TN #DMAS-15	1/1/20	Pages 8, 8a
TN #DMAS-14	10/1/19	Pages 2, 3, 4, 6a, 8, 9, 10, 13 Page 4a is a runover page. Page 10a was added as a runover page. Page 7a was deleted.
TN #DMAS-13	7/1/19	Page 14

M1520 Changes

Page 2 of 2

TN #DMAS-11	1/1/19	Pages 2, 5, 6, 7, 9
TN #DMAS-8	4/1/18	Pages 2, 18 Appendix 2
TN #DMAS-7	1/1/18	Pages 2, 3, 3a, 5, 6, 7 Pages 6a and 7a are runover pages.
TN #DMAS-5	7/1/17	Pages 1, 2, 6, 8 Pages 3, 7, 7a and 9 are runover pages.
TN #DMAS-4	4/1/17	Pages 25-27 Appendix 2, page 1 Pages 28-30 were added.
TN #DMAS-3	1/1/17	Pages 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 14, 26
TN #DMAS-2	10/1/16	Pages 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15 Pages 19-24
TN #DMAS-1	6/1/16	Pages 3, 6, 7, 9, 11-14, 17 Appendix 2, page 1 Pages 3a and 7a were added. Page 8 is a runover page.
TN #100	5/1/15	Table of Contents Pages 1-27 (entire subchapter –pages 28-34 were deleted) Appendices 1 and 2 were added.
TN #99	1/1/14	Table of Contents Pages 1-34 (entire subchapter)
UP #9	4/1/13	Pages 7b and 10a
TN #97	9/1/12	Page 1
UP #7	7/1/12	Pages 1, 7, 7c, 7g
TN #96	10/1/11	Table of Contents Pages 1-7g Pages 11-13 Pages 21-24
TN #95	3/1/11	Pages 6a, 7, 21, 22
TN #94	9/1/10	Table of Contents Pages 3, 4b, 5, 6-6a, 10 Appendix 1 was removed.
UP #4	7/1/10	Page 4
TN #93	1/1/10	Pages 3, 4b, 5-6, 10, 15 Pages 21, 22
Update (UP) #2	8/24/09	Pages 1, 2, 13, 14, 17, 18
Update (UP) #1	7/01/09	Page 3

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with TOC	Page i

TABLE OF CONTENTS

M15 ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

M1520.000 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA) ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

	Section	Page
General Principle.....	M1520.001.....	1
Partial Review.....	M1520.100.....	2
Renewal Requirements	M1520.200.....	5
MA Cancellation or Services Reduction	M1520.300.....	12a
Extended Medicaid Coverage	M1520.400.....	15
Four Month Extension	M1520.401.....	16
Twelve Months Extension.....	M1520.402.....	17
Case Transfers	M1520.500.....	24a

APPENDICES

Renewal Process Reference Guide.....	Appendix 1.....	1
Twelve Month Extended Medicaid Income Limits	Appendix 2.....	1

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.001	Page 1

M1520.000 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

M1520.001 GENERAL PRINCIPLE

A. Policy

A MA recipient's eligibility must be partially reviewed whenever the agency becomes aware of any change in the enrollee's circumstances that might affect the enrollee's continued eligibility. The timeframe for acting on a change is 30 calendar days from the date the change is reported or the agency becomes aware of the change.

Exception: Children meeting the definition of a newborn in M0330.802 or M2240.100.F are to be enrolled as soon as possible upon report of the birth.

An annual review of all of the enrollee's eligibility requirements is called a "redetermination" or "renewal." A renewal of the enrollee's eligibility must be completed at least once every 12 months. The renewal can be initiated in the 10th month to ensure timely completion of the renewal.

When an enrollee no longer meets the requirements for his current covered group, prior to cancelling his coverage, evaluate the enrollee in all covered groups for which he may meet the definition. If the enrollee is not eligible for full benefit Medicaid coverage and is not eligible in any other limited-benefit covered group (i.e. the Medicare Savings Programs), evaluate the enrollee for Plan First, unless he has declined that coverage.

B. Procedures For Partial Review and Renewals

The policy and procedures in this subchapter are contained in the following sections:

- Partial reviews – M1520.100;
- Renewals – M1520.200;
- Canceling coverage or Reducing the level of benefits – M1520.300;
- Extended Medicaid coverage – M1520.400;
- Transferring cases within Virginia – M1520.500.

C. Public Health Emergency (COVID)

On January 31, 2020, a public health emergency (PHE) was declared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a result of the continued consequences of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Under the direction of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), state Medicaid agencies have not taken action to cancel or reduce medical assistance coverage for enrolled individuals, regardless of eligibility changes, unless the individual dies, moves out of the state, or requests cancellation of coverage. *This was referred to as Medicaid continuous coverage. On May 11, 2023 Congress ended the federal COVID-19 public health emergency.*

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 was enacted on 12/29/2022. This policy took effect on April 1, 2023 and affected Medicaid continuous coverage. This outlined case closures or cancellations for those enrollees no longer eligible for Medicaid coverage would be effective as of April 30, 2023.

CMS provided post-pandemic guidance known as "Unwinding" and procedures were developed and implemented for agencies to begin the redetermination process of the majority of Medicaid enrollees.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.100	Page 2

These procedures began in March 2023 via an electronic Ex Parte process. A schedule of when redeterminations were to be processed was constructed and provided to all agencies. This was in order to handle the processing in a logical manner as the CMS instruction was that no more than one ninth of redeterminations could be initiated within any month.

Information was shared with the agencies that are involved with the processing of redeterminations. Broadcasts were available in Fusion and trainings were held for those involved.

M1520.100 PARTIAL REVIEW

A. Enrollee's Responsibility

Enrollees must report changes in circumstances that may affect eligibility and/or patient pay within 10 days from the day the change is known. For enrollees participating in the Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program, changes that may affect participation in HIPP must be reported to the DMAS HIPP Unit within the 10-day timeframe.

B. Eligibility Worker's Responsibility

The eligibility worker is responsible for keeping a record of changes that may be anticipated or scheduled and for taking appropriate action on those changes.

Appropriate agency action on a reported change must be taken within 30 days of the report. If the enrollee reports any changes requiring verifications, such as changes in income or resources, or an asset transfer for enrollees receiving long-term services and supports (LTSS), if possible, use available online systems information to verify the reported change. If the online-information is compatible with the reported change, determine eligibility based upon the information available.

If verifications must be obtained from the enrollee, send a verification checklist, and allow at least 10 calendar days for the information to be returned. If information is not provided by the deadline and continued eligibility cannot be determined, send advance notice to the enrollee/ authorized representative stating the cancellation date and the reason. Document the information and evaluation in the VaCMS case record. If requested verifications are received after the deadline due to circumstances beyond the individual's control (e.g. a postal system delay), reopen the case, and complete processing of the change.

When an enrollee reports a change or the agency receives information indicating a change in the enrollee's circumstances (i.e. Supplemental Security Income [SSI] purge list, reported transfer of assets), the worker must take action to partially review the enrollee's continued eligibility.

The following changes must be verified:

- A decrease in income or termination of employment that causes the individual to move from limited Medicaid coverage to full Medicaid coverage,
- An increase in income that causes the individual to move from Medicaid to FAMIS, or to need a Medically Needy spenddown calculation.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.100	Page 2a

If a reported change is not compatible with information obtained from online system searches, obtain verification from enrollee or authorized representative. The agency may not deny an increase in benefits, terminate coverage, or reduce benefits for any individual unless the agency has sought additional information from the individual and provided proper notification.

When a change is reported that impacts eligibility or a renewal is completed and the enrollee is no longer eligible, the Advance Notice of Proposed Action must be sent to the enrollee, before the enrollee's benefits can be reduced or his eligibility can be terminated (see M1520.301). Send the notice to the authorized representative if one has been designated.

1. **Asset Transfers during the PHE** *When an enrollee reports an uncompensated asset transfer that took place during the COVID-19 Continuous Eligibility Period (sometimes termed the PHE- Public Health Emergency) before April 1, 2023, the transfer should be evaluated and a penalty period calculated. The option to claim undue hardship must be given to the member. **If Undue Hardship is denied or not requested, apply the FULL penalty period going forward (after the 10 day advance notice period), send notice to the client and a 225 (LTSS Communication form) to the provider.***
2. **Negative Action requires a Notice** Adequate notice using the Notice of Action must be provided when an enrollee dies, enters an ineligible institution, is incarcerated and no longer meets a covered group, moves out of Virginia, requests termination of his coverage, or is unable to be located by the local agency.
3. **Changes That Do Not Require Partial Review** Document changes in an enrollee's situation, such as the receipt of the enrollee's Social Security number (SSN), that do not require a partial review in the case record and take action any necessary action on the enrollee's coverage.

Example: An MA enrollee who did not have an SSN, but applied for one when he applied for MA, reports by calling the worker that he received his SSN. The worker records the telephone call and the enrollee's newly assigned SSN in the case record, verifies the SSN via SPIDeR and enters the enrollee's verified SSN in the eligibility determination/enrollment systems

No partial review is required for a change in income (earned, unearned or self-employment) if the eligible individual's coverage remains within the equivalent coverage group (and there is no patient pay associated with the EDG).

Example: The individual is enrolled in a full coverage aid category prior to the reported change and remains in full coverage after the change. No verification is required as coverage remains within the equivalent coverage group after income change.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.100	Page 3

4. HIPP

The eligibility worker must provide the enrollee with a copy of the HIPP FACT Sheet when it is reported that he or a family member is employed more than 30 hours per week and is eligible for coverage under an employer's group health plan. The HIPP Fact Sheet is available at [https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP- Home/Medical-Assistance/References](https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/References).

The eligibility worker must report to the HIPP Unit at DMAS any changes in an enrollee's situation that may affect the premium payment. The worker may report changes by e-mail to hipp@dmass.virginia.gov. This e-mail address is for use by the local agency staff only. See M0130.200 G for additional information about HIPP requirements.

5. Program Integrity

The MA eligibility of enrollees is subject to periodic review through the program integrity process (such as Medicaid Quality Control and the DMAS Recipient Audit Unit). It may be necessary for program integrity staff to request information, such as income verification, from the enrollee. The enrollee will be notified in writing and given a reasonable amount of time, as determined by the program integrity staff, to provide the information.

Should the enrollee not provide the requested information to the program integrity staff within the specified time, program integrity staff will notify the eligibility worker, and the worker must take action to follow up by requesting the appropriate verifications and/or sending advance notice, if necessary, to cancel coverage due to the inability to determine continued eligibility. An individual's failure to provide information to program integrity staff does not affect any future Medicaid applications.

C. Covered Group and Aid Category Changes

1. Enrollee's Situation Changes

When a change in an enrollee's situation results in a potential change in covered group, his eligibility in all other covered groups must be evaluated. Examples of such changes include when:

- a pregnant woman reaches the end of her 12th month of post-partum coverage,
- an infant who has been enrolled as a Newborn Child reaches age one year,
- *a child reaches age 19; is no longer a Virginia resident; the child or child's representative requests eligibility be closed; the agency determines that eligibility was incorrectly approved because of agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to the child or the child's representative; or the child is deceased.*
- a Families & Children (F&C) enrollee becomes entitled to SSI,
- an SSI Medicaid enrollee becomes a Qualified Severely Impaired Individual (QSII) (1619(b),
- an individual enrolled in a Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Adults aid category turns 65 years old, or becomes entitled for/begins receiving Medicare.

2. Change in Level of Benefits

When an individual who has been enrolled in limited coverage, such as Plan First, experiences a change, such as pregnancy or entitlement to Medicare, that results in eligibility for full coverage or a Medicare Savings Program, the individual's entitlement to the new level of coverage begins the month the individual is first eligible for the new level of coverage, regardless of when or how the agency learns of the change. If change in income is reported, the agency must utilize online systems information verifications that are available to the agency without requiring verifications from the individual or family.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.100	Page 4

D. Child Moves From Case Home

When an enrolled child moves out of the home *in which he was living at application or last renewal* but is still living in Virginia, do not cancel MA coverage solely on the basis of the move, and do not require a new application. Complete a partial review to determine the child’s continuing eligibility if any changes in income, such as the child becoming employed, are reported.

1. Case Management

The necessary case management actions depend on the child’s age and whether or not the child has moved to an arrangement in which an authorized representative is necessary.

a. Child Age 18 years or Under 18 and Living with a Relative or Legal Guardian

If the child is age 18, he may be placed in his own MA case if he was previously on a case with other enrollees. If the child is under age 18 and moved in with an adult relative *or legal guardian*, the child may be placed on a case with the relative *or guardian* and *that individual* authorized to conduct MA business on behalf of the child..

b. Child Under Age 18 years Living with Non-relative

When a child under age 18 moves to the home of a non-relative adult without legal custody, the non-relative adult does not have to be an authorized representative to report changes in the child’s situation. However, the worker cannot discuss the case or send the non-relative adult a copy of the child’s MA card unless the person is authorized to handle the MA business for the child. Follow the procedures in M1520.100 D.2 through D.4 below.

2. Enrollment

a. Case Number

The child’s member ID number does not change, but the child’s Member ID number must be moved to a case number in the child’s name as case head, if the person with whom the child is living does NOT have authority to act on the child’s behalf.

b. Demographics Comment Screen

In VaCMS, enter a comment that will inform staff that information from the case cannot be shared with (the name of the person with whom the child lives) because he/she is NOT authorized to receive the information.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2021
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.100	Page 4a

c. Renewal Date

If establishing a new case for the child, enter the child's existing renewal date from his former case. If moving the child to the adult relative's already established case, the child's renewal date will be the adult relative's case renewal date only if this action does not extend the child's renewal date past one year.

d. Medicaid Card

A new ID card is only generated when the enrollee's name, SSN or gender changes, or when a worker requests a replacement ID card. Changing the child's address or case number does not generate a new card. The worker must request a replacement card if one is needed. The existing card will be voided when the replacement is issued.

3. Obtain Authorization from Parent Prior to Renewal

Prior to the next scheduled renewal, the agency should try to obtain an authorization from the parent to allow the agency to communicate with the adult. However, as long as the parent has not formally lost custody of the child, the parent is still the responsible party and can transact the Medicaid business if he is capable and willing, or until there is a guardian/custodian established. If the parent cannot or will not designate an authorized representative, refer the case to the agency's Family Services Unit so that guardianship can be established per M0120.200 C.

4. Renewal

Follow the rules in M0120.200, which apply to both applications and renewals. If the adult is a relative, the adult can complete the renewal for the child. If the adult is a non-relative and not an authorized representative, then the adult cannot complete the child's renewal. If the child's parent cannot or will not complete the renewal, a referral to the agency's Family Services Unit is needed to pursue guardianship.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2021	
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 5	

E. Recipient Enters LTC

An evaluation of continued eligibility must be completed using the rules in chapter M14 when a Medicaid enrollee begins receiving Medicaid-covered LTC services or has been screened and approved for LTC services. Rules for determining Medicaid eligibility for married institutionalized recipients who have a community spouse are found in subchapter M1480.

If an annual renewal has been done within the past 6 months, a partial review to address factors pertinent to receipt of LTC, such as asset transfer, spousal resource assessment, etc., must be completed. If an annual renewal has not been done within the past 6 months, a complete renewal must be completed (see M1520.200). When the re-evaluation is completed, send all required notices to the enrollee/authorized representative, and send a DMAS-225 to the provider (see M1410.300).

If the individual is already enrolled in a full benefit Medicaid covered group, do not change the AC. If the individual is enrolled in a limited-benefit covered group, the individual must be evaluated for eligibility in one of the covered groups for institutionalized individuals (i.e. income \leq 300% of SSI) (see M1460).

For an SSI recipient who has no community spouse and owns no countable real property, verify continued receipt of SSI through SOLQ-I or SVES, obtain information regarding asset transfer from the enrollee or authorized representative, and document the case record. As long as the individual continues to receive SSI, do not change the AC. If the individual loses SSI, evaluate his Medicaid eligibility in other covered groups. See M1430.103 for additional information regarding an SSI recipient who enters a nursing facility.

When an individual on a spenddown enters LTC, his Medicaid eligibility must be determined using the procedures in subchapter M1460. An individual on a spenddown in an assistance unit with a spouse and/or children becomes a separate assistance unit when he enters LTC. The spouse's and/or children's spenddown liability is recalculated to reflect a decrease in assistance unit size. See M1350.220 for additional information.

F. Woman Enrolled in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage Delivers Her Infant

For women enrolled in AC 110 under a fee for service (FFS) arrangement, labor and delivery services are paid as emergency services, and the newborn is considered a deemed-eligible newborn. When the birth of the child born to a woman enrolled in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is reported, review the available systems to determine if the mother is enrolled in AC110 under FFS. If so, the child is enrolled as a deemed newborn in AC 093. See M0330.400.

An infant born to a woman enrolled in AC 111 and/or enrolled in managed care must be evaluated for ongoing coverage. The enrollment is treated as a change in circumstances. The infant is not considered a deemed-eligible newborn but has rather been enrolled prenatally through the mother's enrollment in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage. The infant's birth is treated as an "add a person" case change in the enrollment system and enrolled using the procedures in M1520.200 F 1-F.2 below.

Note: The infant is not required to provide an SSN or proof of application for an SSN in order to be enrolled. Follow the procedures in M0240.200 B.3 90 days following the infant's enrollment to determine if an SSN has been assigned. If the SSN number has not yet been issued at 90 days, obtain the SSN or proof of application for an SSN at the first renewal of the infant's coverage.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2021
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 6

1. Required Information

To enroll the infant, the worker must have the information below. Use existing case data if possible. If additional information is needed, send a request for verification.

- Name, date of birth, sex (gender)
- Information about the infant's MAGI household and income.

Unless the agency has information about the infant's father living in the home (i.e. for another program), use only the mother's reported income to enroll the infant. Do not request information about the father or the father's income unless the agency has information about the father living in the home and his income.

2. Enrollment and Aid Category

Update the case with the new infant's information, enrolling the child as a Medicaid child under 19 or in FAMIS, as appropriate based on the mother's countable income at the time of application. Use the appropriate AC below to enroll the infant:

- Medicaid AC 090 for income > 109% FPL ≤ 143% FPL
- Medicaid AC 091 for income ≤ 109% FPL
- FAMIS AC 006 for income > 150% FPL and ≤ 200% FPL
- FAMIS AC 008 for income > 143% FPL and ≤ 150% FPL

The infant's first renewal is due 12 months from the month of the infant's enrollment.

M1520.200 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Policy

The agency must evaluate the eligibility of all MA enrollees, with respect to circumstances that may change, at least every 12 months. Each renewal must be authorized by an eligibility worker or supervisor, although administrative staff may assist in the gathering of information.

The scope of renewals is limited to information that is necessary to determine ongoing eligibility and that relates to circumstances that are subject to change, such as income and resources. Verification of information that is not subject to change, such as date of birth and SSN, is not required at renewal, unless it has not been verified previously.

If an annual renewal has been done within the past 6 months, a partial review to address factors pertinent to receipt of LTC, such as asset transfer, spousal resource assessment, etc., must be completed. If an annual renewal has not been done within the past 6 months, a complete renewal must be completed (see M1520.200). When the re-evaluation is completed, send all required notices to the enrollee/authorized representative, and send a DMAS-225 to the provider (see M1410.300).

If the individual is already enrolled in a full benefit Medicaid covered group, do not change the AC. If the individual is enrolled in a limited-benefit covered group, the individual must be evaluated for eligibility in one of the covered groups for institutionalized individuals (i.e. income ≤ 300% of SSI) (see M1460).

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2021
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 6a

For an SSI recipient who has no community spouse and owns no countable real property, verify continued receipt of SSI through SOLQ-I or SVES, obtain information regarding asset transfer from the enrollee or authorized representative, and document the case record. As long as the individual continues to receive SSI, do not change the AC (*see M0320.101.C*). If the individual loses SSI, evaluate his Medicaid eligibility in other covered groups. See M1430.103 for additional information regarding an SSI recipient who enters a nursing facility.

When an individual on a spenddown enters LTC, his Medicaid eligibility must be determined using the procedures in subchapter M1460. An individual on a spenddown in an assistance unit with a spouse and/or children becomes a separate assistance unit when he enters LTC. The spouse's and/or children's spenddown liability is recalculated to reflect a decrease in assistance unit size. See M1350.220 for additional information.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 7

B. Renewal Procedures Renewals may be completed in one of the following ways:

- ex parte,
- using a paper form,
- online,
- telephonically by calling the Cover Virginia Call Center.

1. Ex Parte Renewals

An ex parte renewal is an internal review of eligibility based on information available to the agency. Conduct renewals of ongoing Medicaid eligibility through the ex parte renewal process for all covered groups, including covered groups with a resource test and individuals receiving LTSS. If an automated ex parte renewal cannot be attempted, a manual ex parte renewal must be attempted and documented in VaCMS *UNLESS the automated process leaves an ex parte attempt date.*

a. MAGI-based Cases

For cases subject to Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodology, an ex parte renewal should be completed when income verification is available through the federal Hub. An individual may authorize the use of Internal Revenue Services (IRS) data for up to five years on the application form and at each renewal. In order for the federal Hub to be used for income, there must be a valid authorization in the electronic or paper case record.

The agency must utilize online systems information verifications that are available to the agency without requiring verifications from the individual or family, and must make efforts to align renewal dates for all programs. The agency has ready access to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and TANF records, some wage and payment information, information from SSA through SVES or SOLQ-I and information from child support and child care files. Verification of income from available sources, including the VEC, may be used if it is dated within the previous 12 months. See M0130.001.B.3.

The eligibility worker is to take every opportunity to renew Medicaid eligibility when information is reported/verified that will allow a renewal of eligibility to be completed. For example, when an ongoing Medicaid enrollee applies for SNAP or TANF or reports a change in income, use the income information obtained to complete an early ex parte Medicaid renewal and extend the Medicaid renewal for another 12 months.

The agency must include in each applicant's case record facts to support the agency's decision on the case. The eligibility worker must document the date and method used to obtain the verification information (viewed pay stub dated xx/xx/xxxx, telephone call on xx/xx/xxxx date, etc.), the type of verification, the source and a description of the information. If the renewal is not processed and documented electronically, the documentation must be placed and maintained in the case record.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 8

- b. SSI Medicaid Enrollees** An ex parte renewal for an SSI recipient (including a LTSS recipient) can be completed by verifying the individual’s continued receipt of SSI through SVES or SOLQ-I, checking AVS and other electronic verification sources, and documenting the case record. For a 1619(b) individual, check the Medicaid Test Indicator field in SVES or SOLQ-I to verify there is a code of A, B or F.

If the individual is no longer an SSI recipient or no longer has 1619(b) status a manual ex parte renewal must still be attempted. If the ex parte renewal is unsuccessful or results in negative action, a contact-based renewal must be completed and necessary verifications obtained to evaluate the individual’s eligibility in all other covered groups prior to canceling his Medicaid coverage.

- c. All other Medicaid Enrollees** Evaluation for continued Medical Assistance for all covered groups must be attempted using the ex parte renewal process, including covered groups with a resource test and individuals receiving LTSS. If a case drops out of the automated ex parte renewal process, a manual ex parte renewal must be attempted and documented in VaCMS *UNLESS the automated process leaves an ex parte attempt date.*

- d. Continuing Eligibility Not Established Through Ex Parte Process** If the ex parte renewal results in the individual no longer being eligible for coverage, the individual must be given the opportunity to submit current income information and verifications. Follow the steps in M1520.200 B.2 below for completing a paper-based renewal.

- 2. Paper Renewals** When an ex parte renewal cannot be completed and the enrollee has not completed a renewal telephonically or online, send the enrollee a pre-filled paper Administrative Renewal form to sign and return. If an authorized representative has been designated, the renewal form is sent to the authorized representative.

The form needs to be sent to the enrollee in time to allow for the return and processing periods prior to the system cut-off in the 12th month of eligibility. The enrollee must be allowed 30 days to return the renewal form and any necessary verifications; Administrative Renewal forms are pre-filled with the return date. The specific information requested and the deadline for receipt of the verification must be documented in the case record.

If the enrollee submits a completed application form, accept it as a renewal form and obtain any additional information needed to complete the renewal.

If a paper or electronic renewal application is submitted by the enrollee, the renewal should be evaluated even if the scheduled renewal date is in the future.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 8a

New or revised information provided by the enrollee must be entered into the system. The enrollee is responsible for reporting any changes. If the enrollee does not check either “yes” or “no” in response to a particular question, there is considered to be no change with regard to that question.

Verifications must be copied or scanned into VaCMS using the Document Management Imaging System (DMIS) and preserved for the record. Notes by the eligibility worker that the verifications were viewed are not sufficient.

Renewals must be completed prior to cut-off in the 12th month of eligibility or within 30 calendar days from the receipt of the renewal, whichever is later.

When an individual does not return the renewal form and action is taken to cancel coverage, a three-month reconsideration period applies (see M1520.200 C.4).

Note: Follow Auxiliary Grants (AG) policy regarding the appropriate renewal form to use for AG/Medicaid enrollees.

3. Online and Telephonic Renewals

Enrollees may opt to complete a renewal online using CommonHelp or by telephone through the Cover Virginia Call Center.

Renewals completed through CommonHelp are electronically signed by the enrollee or authorized representative. For cases in VaCMS, renewals completed through CommonHelp will automatically be entered into VaCMS for the worker to complete processing. For non-VaCMS cases, the renewal must be completed manually. It is not necessary to print a renewal completed through CommonHelp for the case record because it will be maintained electronically; however, the evaluation of eligibility and verifications must be documented in the VaCMS case record. If the enrollee reports having no income (\$0 income), follow the procedures in M1520.200 B.1.b).

If a paper or electronic renewal application is submitted by the enrollee, the renewal should be processed even if the scheduled renewal date is in the future. If the case is in a current certification period, the renewal should be evaluated for possible changes.

Telephonic renewals may be taken only by the Cover Virginia Call Center. Telephonic renewals cannot be taken directly by the local agency because a telephonic signature is required.

C. Disposition of Renewal

The enrollee must be informed in writing of the findings of the renewal and the action taken using the Notice of Action when continued eligibility exists. Advance written notice must be used when there is a reduction of benefits or termination of eligibility (see M1520.300).

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2020
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 9

1. **Renewal Completed**
Notify the enrollee in writing of the findings of the renewal and the action taken. When eligibility continues, use the Notice of Action, and include the month and year of the next scheduled renewal. When the individual is no longer eligible, use the Advance Notice of Proposed Action and include spenddown information, if applicable. When there is a reduction of benefits, use the Advance Notice of Proposed Action and include the month and year of the next scheduled renewal.

2. **Renewal Not Completed**
If information necessary to redetermine eligibility is not available through online information systems that are available to the agency and the enrollee has been asked but has failed to provide the information, the renewal must be denied and the coverage cancelled due to the inability to determine continued eligibility. Action cannot be taken to cancel coverage until after the deadline for the receipt of verifications has passed, except for situations when the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday.

3. **Referral to Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM)**
Unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM—also known as the Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM)—must be made when an individual’s coverage is cancelled so that the individual’s eligibility for the Advance Premium Tax Credit (APTC) in conjunction with a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) can be determined. If the individual’s renewal was not processed in VaCMS, his case must be entered in VaCMS in order for the HIM referral to be made.

4. **Renewal Filed During the Three-month Reconsideration Period**
If the individual’s coverage is cancelled because the individual did not return the renewal form (or complete an online or telephonic renewal) or requested verifications, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires a reconsideration period of 90 days be allowed for an individual to file a renewal or submit verifications. For MA purposes, the 90 days is counted as three calendar months. The individual must be given the entire reconsideration period to submit the renewal form and any required documentation. When the renewal or verifications are provided within the 90 day reconsideration period, process the renewal as soon as possible but at least within 30 calendar days from receipt.

The reconsideration period applies to renewals for all covered groups.

If the individual files a renewal or returns verifications at any time during the reconsideration period and is determined to be eligible, reinstate the individual’s coverage back to the date of cancellation.

For individuals who were enrolled as Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB) at the time of cancellation, reinstate coverage back to the date of cancellation.

If an individual began receiving Medicare during the reconsideration period and is eligible as QMB, the QMB coverage is effective the month *in which Medicare began*. Evaluate eligibility for the other months of the reconsideration period in other possible covered groups, including Medically Needy.

Send a Notice of Action informing him of the reinstatement, his continued coverage and the next renewal month and year. See M1520, Appendix 1 for the Renewal Process Reference Guide.

If the individual is not eligible, send a Notice of Action indicating the correct reason for the cancellation (e.g. countable income exceeds the limit). Renewal forms filed after the end of the reconsideration period are treated as reapplications. Accept the form and request any additional information needed to determine the individual’s eligibility.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 10

D. Special Requirements for Certain Covered Groups

1. Pregnant Woman

Do not initiate a renewal of eligibility of a pregnant woman in other covered group during her pregnancy. Eligibility ends effective the last day of the 12th month following the month in which her pregnancy ends.

The renewal for a woman who has been enrolled in post-partum coverage will be due the 12th month following the month in which the pregnancy ended. The partial review “batch process” will attempt to re-evaluate the coverage at the end of the 12 month of postpartum coverage.

If the woman does not meet the definition and/or the income requirements for another full-benefit covered group, determine her eligibility in the limited benefit Plan First covered group using the eligibility requirements in M0320.302.

2. Newborn Child Turns Age 1

A renewal must be completed for a child enrolled as a Newborn Child Under Age 1 before Medicaid Enterprise System (MES—formerly the Medicaid Management Information System [MMIS]) cut-off in the last month in which the child meets the Newborn Child Under Age 1 covered group and must include:

- SSN or proof of application
- verification of income
- verification of resources for the MN

child. The ex parte process may be used if appropriate.

3. Child Under Age 19 *Children under 19 receive 12 months of continuous eligibility unless*

- *they reach age 19;*
- *are no longer Virginia residents;*
- *the child or child’s representative requests eligibility be closed;*
- *the agency determines that eligibility was incorrectly approved because of agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to the child or the child's representative; or*
- *the child is deceased.*

4. Child Under Age 19 - Income Exceeds FAMIS Plus Limit

At renewal if an enrolled FAMIS Plus child no longer meets the FAMIS Plus income limits and there is not an LIFC parent on the case, evaluate the child for the FAMIS, using the eligibility requirements in chapter M21. If the child is eligible for FAMIS, send the family an Advance Notice of Proposed Action that Medicaid will be cancelled effective the last day of the month in which the 10-day advance notice expires and the FAMIS coverage will begin the first day of the month following the Medicaid cancellation. Use cancel reason “042” when the child loses eligibility in Medicaid and is reinstated in FAMIS and there is no break in coverage.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 10a

**5. Child Receiving
LTC Services
Turns 18**

A child enrolled in the F&C 300% of SSI covered group no longer meets the covered group upon turning 18, unless he meets another F&C definition (e.g. pregnant woman or parent of a dependent child). A referral to Disability Determination Services (DDS) must be made at least 90 calendar days prior to the child's 18th birthday to allow the disability determination to be made prior to the child's 18th birthday.

**6. FAMIS Plus
Child Turns
Age 19**

When a FAMIS Plus child turns age 19, redetermine the child's continuing Medicaid eligibility in other covered groups.

If information in the case record indicates that the child is disabled or may be disabled, verify the child's SSI benefits through SVES or SOLQ-I. If the child does not receive SSI, complete a referral to DDS following the procedures in M0310.112. The referral to DDS must be made at least 90 calendar days prior to the child's 19th birthday to allow the disability determination to be made prior to the child's 19th birthday.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2022
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 11

Do not use change transactions to move a child between Medicaid and FAMIS. If the child is not eligible for FAMIS, the worker must provide an opportunity for the child to be evaluated as medically needy (MN) **prior** to sending an advance notice and canceling the child's Medicaid coverage

If the child does not meet the definition for another covered group, determine the child's eligibility in Plan First using the eligibility requirements in M0320.302. If the child is eligible for Plan First, reinstate coverage in Plan First and send the Advance Notice of Proposed Action indicating that he has been enrolled in Plan First. On the notice, state that if he does not wish to remain covered by Plan First, to contact the eligibility worker and request that the coverage be cancelled. Include a Plan First Fact Sheet, available at <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/References>, with the Advance Notice of Proposed Action.

6. **IV-E FC & AA Children and AA Children With Special Needs for Medical or Rehabilitative Care**
The renewal of Medicaid coverage for Title IV-E foster care or adoption assistance children and non-IV-E adoption assistance children with special needs for medical or rehabilitative care requires only the following information:
 - verification of continued IV-E eligibility status or non-IV-E special needs for medical or rehabilitative care status,
 - the current address, and
 - any changes regarding third-party liability (TPL).

7. **Child Under 21 Turns Age 21**
When an individual who is enrolled in the Child Under Age 21 covered group turns 21, redetermine his continuing Medicaid eligibility in other covered groups, including Plan First.

This information can be obtained from agency records, the parent or the Interstate Compact office from another state, when the child's foster care or adoption assistance agreement is held by another state. A renewal form is not required. The information must be documented in the case record.

8. **Foster Care Child in an Independent Living Arrangement Turns Age 18**
A foster care child who is in an Independent Living arrangement with a local department of social services (LDSS) no longer meets the definition of a foster care child when he turns 18. Determine the child's eligibility in the Former Foster Care Children Under Age 26 Years covered group.

9. **Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act (BCCPTA)**
The BCCPTA Redetermination Form (#032-03-653) is used to redetermine eligibility for the BCCPTA covered group. The form is available at <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/Forms>. The enrollee must provide a statement from his or her medical provider on the renewal form or else a separate written statement verifying continued treatment for breast or cervical cancer. There are no Medicaid financial requirements for the BCCPTA covered group.

10. **Hospice Covered Group**
At the annual renewal for an individual enrolled in the Hospice covered group (AC 054), the worker must verify the enrollee's continued election and receipt of hospice services, in addition to determining continued Medicaid eligibility.

11. **Qualified Individuals**
Funding for the QI covered group became permanent in 2015; the QI covered group is subject to the same policies regarding renewals as other ABD covered groups.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.200	Page 12

**12. FAMIS Renewal
Period Extension
For Declared
Disaster Areas**

Effective January 1, 2017, if the Governor or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declares Virginia or any area in Virginia to be a disaster area, children enrolled in FAMIS who reside in the declared disaster area may be granted a 90-day extension of the continuous coverage period before their next renewal is due. The next 12-month continuous eligibility period begins the month after the renewal completion date.

The extension of the renewal period applies only to children in a declared disaster area (1) for whom an ex parte renewal cannot be completed and (2) who do not return a renewal form or complete an online or telephonic renewal prior to the renewal due date. The three-month reconsideration period outlined in M1520.200 C.4 also applies to these children if their coverage is cancelled upon not completing a renewal at the end of the 90-day extension period.

E. LTC

Evaluation for continued Medical Assistance for all covered groups must be attempted using the ex parte renewal process, including covered groups with a resource test and individuals receiving LTSS. If a case drops out of the automated ex parte renewal process, a manual ex parte renewal must be attempted and documented in VaCMS *UNLESS the automated process leaves an ex parte attempt date.*

The patient pay must be updated at least every 12 months, even if there is no change in patient pay. Send the provider a DMAS-225 when there has been a change in circumstances resulting in a change in eligibility. If there has been no change in circumstances, do not send a DMAS-225 to the provider.

**F. Incarcerated
Individuals**

Incarcerated individuals who have active Medicaid are subject to annual renewals. Renewals for individuals in Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice facilities will be handled with assistance through the designated facility staff liaison.

- For individuals incarcerated in DOC facilities, send the renewal form and related correspondence to the DOC Health Services Reimbursement Unit, 6900 Atmore Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.
- For individuals in DJJ facilities, send the renewal form and related correspondence to the DJJ Re-entry Services Unit, 600 E. Main Street, Richmond VA 23219.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date October 2017
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.300	Page 12a

Although benefits administered by the Social Security Administration are suspended while an individual is incarcerated, a disabled individual continues to meet the definition of a disabled individual while incarcerated.

M1520.300 MA CANCELLATION OR SERVICES REDUCTION

A. Policy

At the time of any action affecting an individual's MA coverage, federal regulations in 42 CFR 431.206 through 431.214 require the agency to inform every applicant or enrollee in writing

- of his right to a hearing;
- of the method by which he may obtain a hearing; and
- that he may represent himself or use legal counsel, a relative, a friend or other spokesperson.

Send any notices and other correspondence to the authorized representative, if one has been designated.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.300	Page 13

B. Procedures

1. Change Results in Adverse Action

Following a determination that eligibility no longer exists or that the enrollee's Medicaid services must be reduced, the Advance Notice of Proposed Action, available at <https://fusion.dss.virginia.gov/bp/BP-Home/Medical-Assistance/Forms>, or system-generated advance notice must be sent to the enrollee at least 10 days plus one day for mail, before action is taken to cancel or reduce Medicaid coverage.

If the action to cancel or reduce benefits cannot be taken in the current month due to MES cut-off, then the action must be taken by MES cut-off in the following month. The Advance Notice of Proposed Action must inform the enrollee of the last day of Medicaid coverage.

Unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to *Virginia's Insurance Marketplace* must be made when coverage is cancelled. The notice must state that the individual has been referred to *VIM* for determination of eligibility for the APTC.

2. Enrollee Appeals Action

If the enrollee requests an appeal hearing before the effective date of the action, subject to approval by the DMAS Appeals Division, the enrollee may choose to have eligibility continued at the current level of services until a decision is reached after a hearing. The DMAS Appeals Division will notify the local agency that the enrollee's coverage must be reinstated during the appeal process. **Do not reinstate coverage until directed to do so by the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) Appeals Division.**

If the decision is adverse to the recipient, the amount Medicaid paid on the services being appealed that were received by the recipient during the continuation is subject to recovery by DMAS.

Medicaid coverage at the prior level is not continued when a request for appeal is filed on or after the effective date of the action.

When notification is received from DMAS that the agency's proposed adverse action was sustained, the recipient's eligibility must be terminated effective the date of the receipt of that letter. No further advance notice to the recipient is necessary since he/she is also informed of DMAS' decision.

3. Death of Enrollee

The eligibility worker must take the following action when it is determined that an enrollee is deceased:

The Social Security Administration will verify that an individual is dead, but not the date of death. A match with Social Security Administration data occurs when the individual's information is sent through the Hub in VaCMS.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.300	Page 14

Accept the date of death reported to the agency from a family representative or medical provider as accurate. If there is conflicting information regarding the date of death, contact the parent/caretaker relative or authorized representative to obtain the date of death. Information from a medical professional/facility is also acceptable. If the worker is unable to determine the actual date of death, use the date that a HUB inquiry verifies that the member is deceased.

The worker must document the VaCMS case record. Send adequate notice of cancellation to the estate of the enrollee at the enrollee's last known address and to any authorized representative(s) using the Notice of Action on Medicaid.

Cancel the enrollee's coverage, using the date of death (*or the date of the HUB inquiry*) as the effective date of cancellation.

4. Enrollee Enters an IMD

When an enrollee enters an institution for the treatment of mental diseases (IMD), **do not** cancel coverage. DMAS will coordinate with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure that no unauthorized FFP occurs.

5. Enrollee Becomes Incarcerated

If an enrollee becomes incarcerated, a partial review must be completed to determine if he continues to meet the requirements for coverage in a full-benefit CN covered group. If he continues to be eligible, cancel the existing coverage and reinstate in AC 109 for ongoing coverage the date of incarceration. If the individual no longer meets the requirements for a full benefit CN covered group, cancel the coverage, effective the day prior to entering incarceration. See M0140.000.

6. End of Spenddown Period

When eligibility terminates at the end of a six-month spenddown period, advance notice is not required. The individual is notified of the limited period of spenddown eligibility on the Notice of Action sent at the time the spenddown application is approved. Explanation of this limitation and information relative to re-application is provided at the time of the spenddown eligibility determination and enrollment.

7. Reason "012" Cancellations

DMAS staff *do not perform* cancellations due to returned mail. Cancellations for other reasons (such as aging out of the current aid category) are reported in the monthly System Cancellation Report (RS-O-112) available in the Data Warehouse Medicaid Management Reports. The report is issued between the 21st and 25th day of each month and *should* be monitored *by the LDSS worker for appropriate follow up*.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.400	Page 15

8. Enrollee Requests Cancellation

An enrollee may request cancellation of his and/or his children's medical assistance coverage at any time. The request can be verbal or written. Documentation of a written withdrawal request must be placed in the case record. A verbal request for withdrawal can be accepted only from the enrollee or case head, or his authorized representative. A verbal request must be documented in the case record with the date and time the withdrawal request was received, the name of the person who made the withdrawal request, and the name of the agency staff person who took the call.

When the enrollee requests cancellation of Medicaid, the local department must send adequate notice using the Notice of Action to the enrollee no later than the effective date of cancellation.

On the notice:

- check the "other" block and list the reason as "Medicaid coverage cancelled at the enrollee's request,"
- include the effective date of cancellation and instruct the enrollee to discontinue using the card after that date, and
- instruct the enrollee to retain the Medicaid card for future use in case coverage is reinstated within the next 12 months (the system will generate a new card after 12 months).

M1520.400 EXTENSIONS OF MEDICAID COVERAGE

A. Policy

Medicaid families may be eligible for an extended period of Medicaid coverage when the family meets all the requirements for the Low Income Families with Children (LIFC) covered group except income.

LIFC families who received Medicaid in three of the last six months and who became ineligible for Medicaid due to increased income from spousal support may be eligible for a four-month extension.

LIFC families who received Medicaid in three of the last six months and who became ineligible for Medicaid due to an increase in earnings may be eligible for a twelve-month extension. Earnings could increase because of a new job, a raise in the rate of pay or more hours are being worked.

Prior to evaluating the case for the Medicaid extensions, review the household's eligibility in the MAGI covered groups. If eligible, update the renewal date. If anyone in the household is ineligible in a MAGI group, evaluate eligibility for the Medicaid extensions.

MAGI methodology for the formation of households does not apply to individuals in Extended Medicaid. The family unit policies in M0520 apply to Extended Medicaid.

If ineligible *in a MAGI group* or the Medicaid extensions, individuals must be must be evaluated for eligibility *in any other applicable* covered groups. If a child under 18 is ineligible, the child must be given an opportunity for a

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.401	Page 16

medically needy determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage. Unless the child has Medicare, a referral to the *Marketplace* must be made *if the coverage is closed*.

B. Procedure

The policy and procedures for the four-month extension are in section M1520.401 below.

The policy and procedures for the twelve-month extension are in section M1520.402 below.

M1520.401 FOUR-MONTH EXTENSION

A. Policy

An LIFC Medicaid family is entitled to four additional months of Medicaid coverage after the family loses Medicaid LIFC eligibility when the following conditions are met:

- The parent or caretaker-relative received Medicaid as LIFC in at least three of the six months immediately preceding the month in which they became ineligible for LIFC;
- The parent or caretaker-relative lost eligibility solely or partly due to receipt of or increased **countable** spousal support income; and
- All other Medicaid eligibility factors except income are met.

Effective January 1, 2019, alimony or spousal support is not countable as income. Alimony received prior to January 1, 2019 is countable.

An individual whose divorce decree was finalized prior to January 1, 2019, has the option with the IRS to adopt the new rule by modifying the divorce agreement. A copy of the modified divorce agreement must be provided to the eligibility worker; otherwise, the alimony or spousal support continues to be countable.

B. Procedures

1. Received in Error

For purposes of this subsection, "received Medicaid as LIFC" does not include received Medicaid erroneously. Therefore, a family who received Medicaid erroneously during three or more of the six months before the month of ineligibility does **not** qualify for the Medicaid extension and must be evaluated for eligibility in other covered groups.

2. New Family Member

A new member of the family, other than a newborn, is eligible for Medicaid under this provision if he/she was a member of the family in the month the unit became ineligible for LIFC Medicaid. A newborn born to an eligible member of the family at any time during the 4-month extension is eligible under this provision because the baby meets the CN newborn child under age 1 covered group.

3. Moves Out of State

Eligibility does not continue for any member of the family who moves to another state.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 17

4. Coverage Period and AC

Medicaid coverage will continue for a period of four months beginning with the month in which the family became ineligible for LIFC Medicaid because of the receipt of or increase in spousal support. The AC for the enrollees in the family receiving the four-month extension is "081" for an LIFC family with one parent or caretaker-relative or "083" for a two-parent family.

5. Case Handling

Prior to the end of the fourth month of the extension, evaluate the individuals in the family for continuing Medicaid eligibility. Cancel coverage for any individuals in the family who are no longer eligible and send advance notice of the cancellation. Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made so that the individual's eligibility for the APTC in conjunction with a QHP can be determined.

M1520.402 TWELVE-MONTHS EXTENSION

A. Policy

An LIFC Medicaid family is entitled to six additional months, with possible extension to twelve months, of Medicaid coverage after they lose Medicaid LIFC eligibility when the following conditions are met:

- The parent or caretaker-relative received Medicaid as LIFC in at least three of the six months immediately preceding the month in which they became ineligible for LIFC;
- The parent or caretaker-relative lost eligibility solely or partly due to receipt of or increased income from earnings; and
- All other Medicaid eligibility factors except income are met.

The family consists of those individuals included in *the non-MAGI F&C family unit* as defined in M0520.100 at the time that the LIFC Medicaid eligibility terminated. *It includes non-married parents with a child in common. Because non-married parents have different MAGI LIFC households, it is possible that one parent will remain eligible in the LIFC covered group even through the other is no longer eligible as LIFC and must be evaluated for Extended Medicaid. The LIFC parent's income is counted in the Extended Medicaid family unit per M0520.100.*

The family unit also includes individuals born, adopted into, or returning to the family after extended benefits begin who would have been considered a member of the family at the time the LIFC Medicaid eligibility terminated.

The earned income received by a member of the family unit added after the loss of LIFC eligibility must be counted in determining the family's gross income.

B. Eligibility Conditions

The following conditions must be met:

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date January 2024
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 18

1. **Received LIFC Medicaid in Three of Six Months** The family received LIFC Medicaid in at least three of the six months immediately before the month in which the family became ineligible for LIFC. A family who received Medicaid erroneously during three or more of the six months before the month of ineligibility does **not** qualify for the Medicaid extension. Months during which the family received Extended Medicaid are not considered months in which the family received LIFC Medicaid, and the family must be evaluated for eligibility in other covered groups.
2. **Cancel Reason** LIFC Medicaid was canceled solely because of:
 - the parent’s or caretaker/relative's new employment,
 - the parent’s or caretaker/relative's increased hours of employment, or the parent’s or caretaker/relative's increased wages of employment.
3. **Has A Child Living in Home** There continues to be at least one child under age 18 or if in school, a child who is expected to graduate before or in the month he turns 19, living in the home with the parent or caretaker/relative.
4. **No Fraud** The family has not been determined to be ineligible for LIFC Medicaid at any time during the last six months in which the family received LIFC Medicaid because of fraud.

C. Entitlement & Enrollment

The AC for enrollees in the family receiving the twelve-month extension is "081" for an LIFC family with one parent or caretaker-relative or "083" for a two-parent family. Entitlement does not continue for any member of the family who moves to another state.

If a parent becomes eligible for extended Medicaid, the child(ren) remains in the current Aid Category until the end of the previous 12 month continuous eligibility period. Then, if no longer eligible, they are moved into extended Medicaid for the remainder of the extended period. Children under 19 remain eligible for 12 months unless a child reaches age 19; is no longer a Virginia resident; the child or child’s representative requests eligibility be closed; the agency determines that eligibility was incorrectly approved because of agency error or fraud, abuse, or perjury attributed to the child or the child’s representative; or the child is deceased.

1. Determining

Extension Period

a. Establishing Initial Month of Eligibility

Medicaid coverage will continue for six months beginning with the first month following the month in which the family is no longer eligible for LIFC Medicaid because of excess income due to the increased earnings of the parent or caretaker/relative *AND the Benefits Worker can give 10 days notice prior to taking action.*

b. Extension for an additional six-month period is possible if the reporting and financial requirements below are met.

For example, if the increased earnings were received in April, but were not reported or discovered until a review of eligibility in June, the 12-month extension period *begins with July if the Benefits Worker takes action prior to June 20.* The screening period to determine if the family received LIFC Medicaid in at least three of the six months immediately preceding the month in which the family became ineligible for LIFC Medicaid is November through April.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 19

b. Simultaneous Income Changes

In situations where a case has simultaneous income changes which cause LIFC Medicaid ineligibility, such as new or increased earned income plus an increase in spousal support, the eligibility worker must determine if the case would have been ineligible due to new or increased earnings. This requires that the eligibility worker recalculate the LIFC income eligibility only considering the increased earned income.

- 1) If the family would have been ineligible solely due to the increase in earned income, it will be considered the reason for LIFC Medicaid ineligibility and the family is eligible for the twelve-month Medicaid extension.
- 2) If, however, the family would have continued to be eligible for LIFC Medicaid if the only change had been increased earnings, the other changes which occurred simultaneously will be the reason for LIFC Medicaid ineligibility. The family is **not** eligible for the twelve-month Medicaid extension. If the reason for LIFC Medicaid ineligibility was due to the receipt of or increase in spousal support, evaluate the family's eligibility for the four-month extension in M1520.401.

2. Extension Ends

Entitlement to Medicaid under this extension terminates at the end of the first month in which there is no longer a child under 18 (or if in school, a child who is expected to graduate before or in the month he turns 19), living in the home, the family fails to comply with the reporting requirements in 1520.402 D below, or at the end of the extension period.

The individuals must be evaluated for continuing Medicaid eligibility prior to cancellation. Cancel coverage for any individuals in the family who are no longer eligible and send advance notice of the cancellation. Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

D. Notice and Reporting Requirements

The Virginia Case Management System (VaCMS) generates the appropriate report forms and notices when the worker has approved extended Medicaid in the system. Instructions for managing an extended Medicaid case are contained in the "Extended Medicaid in the VaCMS" Quick Reference Guide (QRG) available in VaCMS.

1. LIFC Medicaid Cancellation Month

When LIFC Medicaid is canceled, the family must be notified of its entitlement to extended Medicaid coverage for six months, and that Medicaid coverage will terminate if the child(ren) in the home turns age 18, or turns age 19 if the child is in school and is expected to graduate before or in the month he turns 19. Use the VaCMS-generated Notice of Extended Medicaid Coverage form.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 20

a. Notice and Instructions

The family must be instructed to retain verifications of all earnings received during each month of the extension and attach verifications of the first three-month period's earnings to the agency by the 21st day of the fourth month in the extension period. The instructions are on the Notice of Extended Medicaid Coverage and on the second page of the notice, which is the Medicaid Extension Earnings Report.

2. Third Month of Extension

In the third month of extension, the unit must be notified again that it must return the Medicaid Extension Earnings Report, with the earnings verifications attached, to the agency by the 21st of the following month (the fourth month).

This notice will be generated by VaCMS if the correct Follow-up Code and effective date of the 12-month extension are entered.

The notice will state that if the earnings report and verifications are not received by the 21st day of the fourth month, Medicaid coverage will be canceled effective the last day of the sixth month, and that the family will not be eligible for any additional Medicaid extension.

3. Fourth Month of Extension

a. Report Received Timely

If the first three-month period's report is received by the 21st day of the fourth month, and the family continues to include a child, entitlement to Extended Medicaid continues. The worker must update VaCMS when the report is received in order for Extended Medicaid to continue. No action is taken on the first three-month period's earnings.

*VaCMS will cancel coverage at **cut-off** of the sixth extension month. If the worker receives the report prior to cutoff and the family continues to include a child, reinstate the Extended coverage. If the report is not received, the agency must reopen coverage for any individuals who remain eligible in another Medicaid covered group or in FAMIS and must notify the individual of the reopened coverage.*

b. Notice Requirements

VaCMS will generate the advance notice and cancel coverage at the end of the sixth month if the initial Follow-up Code and Date were entered correctly, and the code is **not** updated because the report was not received on time. If the code was not entered correctly, the agency must manually send the Advance Notice of Proposed Action and must cancel the ineligible individual's coverage after the Medicaid cut-off date in the fifth month. The effective date of cancellation will be the last day of the sixth month in the extension period.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 21

c. Report Not Received Timely

If the first three-month period's report is not received by the 21st day of the fourth month, the family is not eligible for the additional six-month extension. Medicaid must be canceled effective the last day of the sixth month in the extension period for any individuals who are not eligible for coverage in another Medicaid covered group or for FAMIS. Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

4. Sixth Month of Extension

In the sixth month of extension, the family must be notified that it must return the "Medicaid Extension Earnings Report" for the previous three-month period (the fourth through the sixth month), with the earnings verifications for those three months attached, to the agency by the 21st day of the seventh month of extension.

The notice must state that if this three-month period's report and verifications are not returned by the 21st day of the seventh month, Medicaid coverage will be canceled effective the last day of the eighth month of extension.

VaCMS will generate this notice if the Follow-up Code in the base case information is correct. If it is not correct, the agency must manually send this notice.

5. Seventh Month of Extension

a. Report Received Timely

If the second three-month period's report is received by the 21st of the seventh month, update VaCMS immediately upon receipt of the report and verifications. The family will continue to be eligible for extended Medicaid coverage unless:

- 1) no child under age 18, or if in school, a child who is expected to graduate before or in the month he turns 19, lives with the family;
- 2) the parent or caretaker/relative had no earnings in one or more of the previous three months, unless the lack of earnings was due to:
 - the parent's or caretaker/relative's involuntary lay-off,
 - the business closed,
 - the parent's or caretaker/relative's illness or injury,
 - other good cause (such as serious illness of child in the home which required the parent's or caretaker/relative's absence from work);
- 3) the family's average gross monthly **earned** income (earned income only; unearned income is not counted) less costs for child care that was necessary for the employment of the caretaker/relative, during the preceding three-month period exceeds the 185% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) appropriate to the family unit size. See M1520, Appendix 2, for the 185% FPL income limits.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 22

b. Calculate Family's Gross Earned Income

- 1) The family's gross earned income means the earned income of all family members who worked in the preceding three-month period. "Gross" earned income is total earned income before any deductions or disregards and profit from self-employment. All earned income must be counted, including students' earned income, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) earned income, children's earned income, etc. No exclusions or disregards are allowed. Use policy in M0720.200 for determining profit from self-employment.
 - 2) child care costs that are "necessary for the caretaker/relative's employment" are expenses that are the responsibility of the caretaker/relative for child care that if not provided would prevent the caretaker/relative from being employed.
- 2) To calculate average gross monthly income:
- add each month's cost of child care necessary for the caretaker/relative's employment; the result is the three-month period's cost of child care necessary for the caretaker/relative's employment.
 - add the family unit's total gross earned income received in each of the 3 months; the result is the family's total gross earned income.
 - subtract the three-month period's cost of child care necessary for the caretaker/relative's employment from the family's total gross earned income.
 - divide the remainder by 3; the result is the average monthly earned income.
 - compare the average monthly earned income to the monthly 185% FPL for the appropriate number of family unit members (see M1520, Appendix 2).

c. Family No Longer Entitled To Extended Medicaid

If the family is not entitled to further Medicaid coverage because of one of the reasons in item M1520.402 D.5.a above, each individual's eligibility for Medicaid in another covered group or for FAMIS must be determined before canceling coverage. Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 23

d. Family Remains Entitled To Extended Medicaid

If the family remains eligible for Extended Medicaid, no action is required until the ninth month of extension, except to be sure that the extended Medicaid information in VaCMS is up to date.

e. Report Not Received Timely

If the second three-month period's report and verifications are not received by the 21st day of the seventh month, the family's Medicaid coverage must be canceled for individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid in another covered group or for FAMIS unless the family establishes good cause for failure to report on a timely basis. Examples of good cause for failure to report timely are:

- illness or injury of family member(s) who is capable of obtaining and sending the material;
- agency failure to send the report notice to the family in the proper month of the extension.

Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

VaCMS will generate the advance notice and cancel coverage if the report is not received on time and the code is not changed. Cancellation is effective the last of the eighth month of extension.

If an individual's continuing eligibility is not reviewed by the **cut-off date** of the eighth extension month and coverage is cancelled, the agency must then reopen coverage and notify the recipient if he is subsequently found eligible. If an individual remains eligible, change the individual's enrollment to the appropriate aid category before the **cut-off date** of the eighth extension month.

6. Ninth Month of Extension

In the ninth month of extension, the family must be notified that it must return the "Medicaid Extension Earnings Report" with earnings verifications attached, for the previous three-month period (seventh through ninth month) to the agency by the 21st day of the tenth month of the extension.

The notice must state that if the report and verifications are not returned by 21st day of the tenth month, Medicaid coverage will be canceled effective the last day of the eleventh month of extension.

VaCMS will generate this notice if the correct Follow-up Code is in the base case information.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2019
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.402	Page 24

7. Tenth Month of Extension

a. Report Received Timely

If the third three-month period's report is received by the 21st of the tenth month, update VaCMS immediately upon receipt of the report and verifications. The family continues to be eligible for Medicaid unless one of the items in M1520.402 D.5 above applies. Calculate the family's income using the procedures in M1520.402 D.5 above.

b. Family No Longer Entitled To Extended Medicaid

If the family is not entitled to **extended** Medicaid coverage, review each individual's eligibility for Medicaid in another category or for FAMIS. If the individual is not eligible, cancel Medicaid after sending the **Advance Notice of Proposed Action**. Cancellation is effective the last day of the eleventh month of extension. Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

c. Family Remains Entitled To Extended Medicaid

If the family remains entitled to Extended Medicaid coverage, a redetermination of the family's Medicaid eligibility must be completed by the Medicaid cut-off in the twelfth month.

d. Report Not Received Timely

If the third three-month period's report and verifications are not received by the 21st of the tenth month, Medicaid coverage must be canceled for individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid in another covered group or for FAMIS unless the family establishes good cause for failure to report timely (see M1520.402 D.5 above for good cause). Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

VaCMS will cancel coverage and generate the advance notice if the report is not received on time and the Follow-up Code is not changed. Cancellation is effective the last day of the eleventh month of extension.

8. Twelfth Month of Extension

Before Medicaid cut-off in the twelfth month, complete the family's redetermination. VaCMS will cancel coverage and generate the advance notice after cut-off of the twelfth month, if the Follow-up Code was updated correctly. Therefore, for any of the family members that remain eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS, the AC and the Follow-up Code must be changed before cut-off of the twelfth month.

Individuals who meet a MN covered group must be given an opportunity for an MN determination prior to the worker taking action to cancel the Medicaid coverage and unless the individual has Medicare, a referral to the HIM must be made.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 24a

M1520.500 CASE TRANSFERS

A. Introduction

Applications and ongoing cases are transferred only when the individual retains residence in Virginia.

B. Nursing Facility and Assisted Living Facility (ALF)

When an individual is admitted to a nursing facility or an ALF from a community living arrangement, the case is not transferred, but remains with the Virginia locality in which the individual last lived outside of an institution. Community living arrangements do not include medical facilities, ALFs or group homes with four or more beds.

When an applicant/recipient is discharged from a nursing facility or ALF to a community living arrangement not in the Virginia locality that had responsibility for the individual's case while he was in the nursing facility or ALF, the case is transferred to the new locality.

If the local agencies involved agree the case should remain with the original agency, then the case would not be transferred.

C. Auxiliary Grant (AG)

See M0320.102 regarding a recipient receiving an Auxiliary Grant (AG) and eligible for Medicaid. The approved member's case should be retained by the agency (locality) which is issuing the grant. Eligibility workers should refer to processing guidelines provided by VDSS and DARS.

Exception: If the individual is receiving AG Supportive Housing (AGSH) payments (clients live in the community and still receive AG payments) the case should transfer to the locality in Virginia based on where the client currently resides (like LTSS CBC cases).

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2020
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 25

D. Cases From Outstationed Workers

Medicaid applications taken and Medicaid cases approved by outstationed workers, such as the workers stationed at the University of Virginia (UVA) and Virginia Commonwealth University-Medical College of Virginia (VCU-MCV) hospitals, must be transferred to the LDSS where the applicant/enrollee lives. Medicaid cases and applications are **not** transferred from LDSS **to** outstationed workers.

1. Confirm Receipt

The receiving LDSS must confirm receipt of the case by completing the Case Record Transfer Form and returning the copy to the outstationed worker.

2. Review Eligibility

LDSS workers must review (partial review) the Medicaid eligibility determination in approved cases transferred from an outstationed worker, and must take any necessary corrective action.

3. Corrective Action

If an eligibility error(s) is found, do not send the case back. Correct the error(s), send the notice to the case head if required, and refer the case to the LDSS supervisor for possible contact with the outstationed worker's supervisor.

E. Local Agency to Local Agency

When a Medicaid applicant/enrollee (including a Medicaid CBC waiver services enrollee) moves from one locality to live in a community living arrangement (not a medical facility, an ALF, or group home with 4 or more beds) in another locality within the state of Virginia, the following procedures apply:

1. Sending Locality Responsibilities

a. Medical Assistance Case with No Other Benefit Programs Attached

The sending locality must ensure that the ongoing case is current and complete before transferring the case. If the annual renewal has been completed within the past 10 months, a partial review based on known information, as to whether or not the enrollee will meet a covered group and the income and resource limits in the new locality, must be completed before transferring the case.

If the case is in a current case action in VaCMS, the agency must complete the case action before transferring the case. If the individual applies for other benefits programs in another locality, the sending LDSS has 7 calendar days from the time they receive information indicating the individual has moved to complete the case action and transfer the case to the new locality.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2022
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 26

If the annual renewal is due in the month the LDSS plans to transfer the case, the following month, or is overdue, the renewal must be completed before transferring the case. If the enrollee applies for other benefit programs in another locality, the sending LDSS must transfer the case to the new locality by the end of the next business day after they receive information indicating the enrollee has moved, provided the agency has not started the redetermination case action in VaCMS

If the individual applies for other benefits in the new locality and the case is in the redetermination case action in VaCMS, the sending LDSS has 7 calendar days from the time they receive information indicating the individual has moved to complete the case action and transfer the case to the new locality. The worker will update VaCMS immediately with the new address so the information transfers over to *MES* to assure managed care continuity but will maintain ownership of the case in their FIPS until the renewal is completed.

The sending LDSS must process the renewal if a renewal or application is submitted during the reconsideration period and the enrollee indicates he has moved on the application or renewal form.

If the case is closed and in the reconsideration period, and the individual applies for other benefits programs in another locality, the case will be transferred to the new locality automatically when the new locality associates the application for other benefits with the closed case. The new locality will be responsible for processing the renewal if it is submitting within the reconsideration period.

b. Medical Assistance Case with Other Benefit Programs Attached

The sending locality must ensure that the MA program attached to the ongoing case is current and complete before transferring the case. If the annual renewal has been completed within the past 10 months, a partial review based on known information, as to whether or not the recipient will meet a covered group and the income and resource limits in the new locality, must be completed before transferring the case. If the case is in a current case action the agency must complete the case action before transferring the case.

If the annual MA renewal is due in the month the LDSS plans to transfer the case, the following month, or is overdue, the renewal must be completed before transferring the case. If the individual submits his interim or renewal for other benefit programs in another locality, the sending LDSS must transfer the case to the new locality by the end of the next business day after they receive information indicating the individual has moved, provided the agency has not started the redetermination case action in VaCMS.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2022
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 27

If the individual submits his renewal for other benefits in the new locality and the case is in the redetermination case action, the sending LDSS has 7 calendar days from the time they receive information indicating the individual has moved to complete the case action and transfer the case to the new locality. The worker will update VaCMS immediately with the new address so the information transfers over to *MES* to assure managed care continuity but will maintain ownership of the case in their FIPS until the renewal is completed.

The sending LDSS must process the renewal if a renewal or application is submitted during the reconsideration period and the individual indicates he has moved on the application or renewal form.

If the MA is closed and in the reconsideration period, and the individual submits a renewal for other benefit programs in another locality, the sending LDSS will transfer the case to the new locality and the new locality will be responsible for processing the renewal if it is submitted within the reconsideration period.

c. Transfer Pending Medical Assistance Applications

Pending applications or cases in Intake/Screening in VaCMS must be transferred to the new locality for an eligibility determination.

d. Foster Care & Adoption Assistance

Foster care and adoption assistance Medicaid cases are not transferred unless custody or responsibility for services and/or payment is transferred.

e. Sending Transferred Cases

If the renewal or the partial review indicates that the enrollee(s) will continue to be eligible for Medical Assistance in the new locality, the sending locality must update the enrollment system. Transfer the electronic case, and if applicable, send the additional case record materials to the enrollee's locality of residence with a completed Case Record Transfer Form.

Required Document Management Imaging System (DMIS) items must be uploaded to VaCMS before case transfer. Document within VaCMS to indicate if there are documents uploaded to DMIS and/or additional case record materials outside of VaCMS. If additional case record materials exist, the materials and a completed Case Record Transfer Form must be sent by certified mail, delivered personally and a receipt obtained or, at the agency's discretion, the case may be sent via the courier pouch.

If the annual renewal or the partial review finds that eligibility no longer exists for one or all enrollees in the case, the agency must take the necessary action, including advance notice to the individuals, to cancel the ineligible individuals' coverage.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2017
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 28

**2. Receiving
Locality
Responsibilities**

a. Confirm Receipt

The receiving agency must confirm receipt of the additional case record materials by completing the Case Record Transfer Form and returning the copy to the sending agency. If VaCMS indicates no additional case record materials, no follow up action is required.

b. Process Pending Applications

When a pending application is transferred, the receiving agency makes the eligibility determination and takes all necessary action, including sending the notice and enrolling eligible individuals.

c. Review Eligibility

LDSS workers must review (partial review) the Medicaid eligibility determination for cases transferred from other LDSS and must take any necessary corrective action.

d. Corrective Action

If an eligibility error(s) is found or the case is overdue for renewal, do not send the case back. Correct the error(s), and/or complete the renewal, send the notice to the case head if required, and refer the case to the LDSS supervisor for possible contact with the sending agency's supervisor.

**3. Decision Pathway
for Case Transfers**

*When an enrollee reports a change of address, use the steps below as guidance. **If a case is held before transfer to complete an action, immediately update the address to ensure managed care continuity.***

a. Enrollee Reports Change of Address

Step 1:

Is the case current and complete? This means the case is not in any case action and the renewal has been completed within the last 10 months.

-If Yes, go to Step 2.

-If No, go to Step 4.

Step 2:

Has the person applied for other programs?

-If yes, the worker has 7 calendar days to complete a partial review and transfer the case.

-If no, go to Step 3.

Step 3:

Has the person submitted an interim or renewal for other programs?

-If yes, the worker has by the end of the next business day to transfer the case.

-If no, the worker has 30 days to transfer the case per change policy.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2017
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 29

Step 4:

What is incomplete?

-If the case is in a case action, go to Step 5.

-If the case is coming due, due or overdue for a renewal, go to Step 6.

Step 5:

Has the person applied for other programs?

-If yes, the worker has 7 calendar days to complete the action, a partial review, and transfer the case.

-If no, the worker has 30 days to transfer the case per change policy.

Step 6:

Has the person submitted an application, interim or renewal for other programs?

-If yes, go to step 7.

-If no, the worker must complete the renewal before transferring the case.

Step 7:

Is the case in redetermination action?

-If yes, the worker has 7 calendar days to complete the action, a partial review, and transfer the case.

-If no, the worker has by the end of the next business day to complete the action and transfer the case.

b. Enrollee Submits Renewal During Reconsideration Period That Includes a Change of Address:

Step 1:

Are there other benefit programs other than MA active on the case?

-If yes, go to Step 2.

-If no, go to Step 4.

Step 2:

Has the person submitted an interim or renewal for other programs?

-If yes, go to Step 3.

-If no, the worker must complete the renewal before transferring the case.

Step 3:

Is the case in any action?

-If yes, the worker has 7 calendar days to complete the action, a partial review, and transfer the case.

-If no, the worker has by the end of the next business day to complete the action and transfer the case.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2022
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with M1520.500	Page 30

Step 4:

Has the person submitted an application for other programs?

-If yes, the worker has 7 calendar days to complete a partial review and transfer the case.

-If no, the worker must complete the renewal before transferring the case.

F. Spenddown Cases

Cases in spenddown status (denied or canceled and placed on a spenddown) must be transferred when the applicant notifies the agency that he/she has moved to a new Virginia locality.

1. Sending Locality Responsibilities

Within 10 working days of notification that the applicant has moved, the case must be transferred to the new locality, following the policies in M1520.500 E.1.e. The sending agency must:

- inform the applicant of the receiving agency's name, address, and telephone number;
- deduct all known spenddown items from the spenddown balance on the worksheet before sending the case record.

2. Receiving Locality Responsibilities

The receiving locality must review the case following the policies in M1520.500 E.2.

G. Receiving LDSS Case Management Procedure

To identify and manage transferred Medicaid cases, use the report titled "Caseworker Alpha Case/Enrollee Listing." This report is posted in the Data Warehouse Medicaid Management Reports. It is updated on or about the 22nd of each month. The LDSS can also use the Case Assignment function in VaCMS to view current caseloads.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date May 2015
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with Appendix 1	Page 1

Renewal Process Reference Guide

Renewal Due	Renewal Grace Period	Renewal Completed & Individual Remains Eligible	Next Renewal Period	Next Renewal Due
November 2013 (overdue renewal)	N/A	May 2014	June 2014-May 2015	May 2015
May 2014	N/A	May 9 th (before cutoff)	June 2014-May 2015	May 2015
May 2014	N/A	May 19 th (after cutoff)	June 2014-May 2015	May 2015
June 2014	N/A	In May (any day)	July 2014-June 2015	June 2015
July 2014	N/A	In May (any day)	August 2014-July 2015	July 2015
April 2014 Client does not return renewal form and coverage is cancelled effective April 30, 2014.	May, June, July Renewal form returned in May 2014	In May (any day) Coverage is reinstated back to May 1	May 2014-April 2015	April 2015
April 2014 Client does not return renewal form and coverage is cancelled effective April 30, 2014.	May, June, July Renewal form returned in June 2014	In June (any day) Coverage is reinstated back to May 1.	July 2014-June 2015 (May is treated as retro month)	June 2015
April 2014 Client does not return renewal form and coverage is cancelled effective April 30, 2014.	May, June, July Renewal form returned in July 2014	July (any day) Coverage is reinstated back to May 1.	August 2014-July 2015 (May and June treated as retro months)	July 2015
April 2014 Client does not return renewal form and coverage is cancelled effective April 30, 2014.	May, June, July Renewal form returned in August 2014	Treat as new application since grace period expired (a new application form is not required). Application date is date of receipt, retroactive period is May-July.	August 2014-July 2015	July 2015

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2023
Subchapter Subject M1520 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY REVIEW	Page ending with Appendix 2	Page 1

TWELVE MONTH EXTENDED MEDICAID INCOME LIMITS 185% of FEDERAL POVERTY LIMITS EFFECTIVE 1-20-23 ALL LOCALITIES	
# of Persons in Family Unit/Budget Unit	185% FPL Monthly Limit
1	\$2,248
2	3,041
3	3,833
4	4,625
5	5,418
6	6,210
7	7,003
8	7,795
Each additional person add	793

CHAPTER M15

ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

SUBCHAPTER 50

**DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DBHDS) FACILITIES**

M1550 Changes

Changed With	Effective Date	Pages Changed
TN #DMAS-23	4/1/22	Page 1
TN #DMAS-20	7/1/21	Appendix 1
TN #DMAS-19	4/1/21	Pages 1, 2
TN #DMAS-17	7/1/20	Table of contents Pages 1, 2 Appendix 1, page 1 Pages 3-9 and Appendix 1, page 2 were deleted.
TN #DMAS-16	4/1/20	Page 2 Appendix 1, page 1
TN #DMAS-14	10/1/19	Appendix 1, page 1 Appendix 1, page 2 was added.
TN #DMAS-8	4/1/18	Page 3
TN #DMAS-7	1/1/18	Page 1 Appendix 1, page 1
TN #DMAS-4	4/1/17	Appendix 1, page 1
TN #DMAS-3	1/1/17	Pages 4-6, 8, 9
TN #100	5/1/15	Appendix 1, page 1
UP #9	4/1/13	Appendix 1, page 1
Update (UP) #7	7/1/12	Appendix 1, page 1
TN #96	10/1/11	Appendix 1, page 1
TN #93	1/1/10	Title page Table of Contents Pages 1-9 Appendix 1, page 1
TN #91	5/15/09	Appendix 1

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2020
Subchapter Subject M1550 DBHDS FACILITIES	Page ending with TOC	Page i

TABLE OF CONTENTS

M15 ENTITLEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES

M1550.000 DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DBHDS) FACILITIES

	Section	Page
General Principles.....	M1550.100.....	1
DBHDS Facilities	M1550.200.....	1

APPENDIX

DBHDS Facilities	Appendix 1.....	1
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Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date April 2022
Subchapter Subject M1550 DBHDS FACILITIES	Page ending with M1550.200	Page 1

M1550.000 DBHDS FACILITIES

M1550.100 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- A. Introduction** This subchapter contains a list and a brief description of the DBHDS facilities (M1550.200).

Prior to July 1, 2020, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) had eligibility workers, called Medicaid Technicians, located in Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) facilities to determine the patients' eligibility for Medicaid. On July 1, 2020, VDSS suspended operations of the Medicaid Technicians.

Effective July 1, 2020, local DSS will process applications submitted by patients of DBHDS facilities and maintain cases for enrolled individuals who reside in DBHDS facilities.

M1550.200 DBHDS FACILITIES

- A. Introduction** Three types of medical facilities are administered by DBHDS: training centers, psychiatric hospitals, and a general hospital with nursing facility beds. Below is a brief description of each type of facility.

1. **South-eastern Virginia Training Center** *Southeastern Virginia Training Center in Chesapeake is an institution and medical center for individuals diagnosed with an intellectual or developmental disability. Some patients may be employed and have earned income. Patients of any age may be Medicaid eligible if they meet all nonfinancial and financial Medicaid eligibility requirements.*
2. **Psychiatric Hospitals** Psychiatric hospitals are medical facilities – institutions for the treatment of mental diseases (IMDs) – which provide care and services to mentally ill patients. There are two types of psychiatric hospitals: intensive psychiatric and psychiatric/chronically mentally ill. These hospitals may have patients of any age, although two of them are dedicated to geriatric patients and one serves only adolescents.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2020
Subchapter Subject M1550 DBHDS FACILITIES	Page ending with M1550.300	Page 2

Federal regulations in 42 CFR 435.1008 prohibit federal financial participation (FFP) in most Medicaid services provided to patients residing in a psychiatric hospital unless they are:

- under age 21 years (if treatment began before age 21 and continues, they may be eligible up to age 22), or
- age 65 years or older,

and they meet all non-financial and financial Medicaid eligibility requirements.

An individual who is age 22 or over, but under age 65 and who is enrolled in a Medicaid at the time of admission to an IMD may remain enrolled in Medicaid. Do not cancel coverage. The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will coordinate with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure that no unauthorized FFP occurs.

The following are psychiatric hospitals, offering differing levels of care:

- Eastern State Hospital – Williamsburg
- Central State Hospital – Petersburg
- c. Western State Hospital – Staunton
- d. Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute – Falls Church
- e. Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute – Danville
- f. Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute – Marion
- g. Piedmont Geriatric Hospital – Burkeville
- h. Catawba Hospital – Catawba
- i. Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA) – Staunton (formerly Dejarnette Center)

CCCA is a psychiatric hospital for adolescents between the ages of 4 and 18. Children are provided schooling, counseling and medication. Most children have not been determined disabled. A child in CCCA can be Medicaid-eligible if the child meets all nonfinancial and financial Medicaid eligibility requirements.

2. General Hospital

General hospitals are medical facilities which provide care and services to acutely physically ill patients in the DBHDS facilities. The general hospitals may have patients of any age. There are general hospital acute care units within Eastern State and Western State Hospitals, and the Hiram Davis Medical Center general hospital located on the campus of Central State Hospital in Petersburg. Hiram Davis provides medical and surgical treatment for patients from any DBHDS facility. Hiram Davis also has some beds certified for nursing facility level of care.

Patients in the general hospitals may be Medicaid eligible if they meet all non-financial and financial Medicaid eligibility requirements.

Manual Title Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility	Chapter M15	Page Revision Date July 2021
Subchapter Subject M1550 DBHDS FACILITIES	Page ending with Appendix 1	Page 1

DBHDS FACILITIES PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS

Central State Hospital – Petersburg
 Western State Hospital – Staunton
 Northern Virginia *State* Mental Health *Hospital* – Falls Church
 Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute – Danville
 Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute – Marion
 Piedmont Geriatric Hospital – Burkeville*
 Catawba Hospital – Catawba*
 Commonwealth Center (for Children and Adolescents) –Staunton
*Eastern State Hospital**

**These facilities admit for Temporary Detention Orders (TDOs); stays are not covered by Medicaid.*