

Indiana Health Coverage Program Policy Manual Chapter 2200 CONTINUING CASE PROCESSING Sections 2200.00.00 – 2250.00.00

Contents

- 2200.00.00 CONTINUING CASE PROCESSING 2
- 2205.00.00 REDETERMINATIONS..... 2
 - 2205.05.00 ESTABLISHING THE REDETERMINATION (ANNUAL RENEWAL) MONTH..... 2
 - 2205.10.00 SCHEDULING REDETERMINATION IN (ANNUAL RENEWAL) INTERVIEWS 3
 - 2205.15.00 REDETERMINATIONS (ANNUAL RENEWAL) BY MAILER..... 3
 - 2205.15.05 CHIP (MA 10) RENEWALS
- 2215.00.00 CHANGES 4
 - 2215.10.00 DATE CHANGE REPORTED 4
 - 2215.15.00 WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING CHANGES..... 4
- 2220.00.00 PROCESSING CHANGES..... 5
 - 2220.05.00 CHANGES REPORTED AND VERIFIED TIMELY..... 6
 - 2220.10.00 CHANGES REPORTED UNTIMELY YET VERIFIED TIMELY 9
 - 2220.15.00 FAILURE OF ASSISTANCE GROUP TO REPORT CHANGES 9
 - 2220.20.00 CHANGES REPORTED AND NOT VERIFIED TIMELY..... 9
 - 2220.25.00 PROCEDURES WHEN MEDICAID FACILITY LOSES CERTIFICATION.....10
- 2225.00.00 ADDING AN INDIVIDUAL TO THE AG (MED 2, MED 3).....10
 - 2225.10.00 ADDING A NEWBORN CHILD.....10
 - 2225.20.00 REMOVING AN INDIVIDUAL FROM THE CASE
- 2232.00.00 TIMELY NOTICE OF ADVERSE ACTION11
 - 2232.10.00 EXCEPTIONS TO TIMELY NOTICE (MED)12
- 2235.00.00 CHANGES IN CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE (CLEVIDENCE RULING) (MED)12

<u>2236.00.00</u>	<u>REDUCTION IN SCOPE OF MEDICAID COVERAGE (MED)</u>	14
<u>2237.00.00</u>	<u>MEDICAID RESOURCE SUSPENSION (MED 1)</u>	15
2237.05.00	SUSPENSION INCARCERATION/PSYCHIATRIC ADMISSION	15
2237.10.00	REINSTATEMENT OF BENEFITS FOR SUSPENDED INDIVIDUALS	15
<u>2238.00.00</u>	<u>DISCONTINUANCE</u>	16
2238.05.00	DISCONTINUANCE DUE TO DEATH.....	16
2238.06.00	DISCONTINUANCE DUE TO WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN	16
2238.10.00	CLOSED CASE FILES.....	17
2238.15.00	CERTIFICATES OF MEDICAID COVERAGE	17
2238.20.00	CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 19	19
<u>2238.25.00</u>	<u>REDETERMINATION 90-DAY EXTENSION FOR FAILURE TO VERIFY</u>	21
<u>2239.00.00</u>	<u>CORRECTION OF LIABILITY (MED 1)</u>	21
<u>2240.00.00</u>	<u>AG CHANGES ADDRESS</u>	22
<u>2250.00.00</u>	<u>VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM ASSISTANCE</u>	22

2200.00.00 CONTINUING CASE PROCESSING

This chapter contains policy regarding continuing case processing, including:

- Redeterminations (Section 2205)
- Changes (Section 2215)
- Processing Changes (Section 2220)
- Adding an Individual to the AG (Section 2225)
- Timely Notice of Adverse Action (Section 2232)
- Changes in Category of Assistance (Clevidence Ruling) (Section 2235)
- Reduction in Scope of Medicaid Coverage (Section 2236)
- Suspension of Medicaid Benefits (Section 2237)
- Discontinuance (Section 2238)
- Correction of Spend-down and Liability (Section 2239)
- AG Address Change (Section 2240)
- Voluntary Withdrawal from Assistance (Section 2250).

2205.00.00 REDETERMINATIONS

Periodic reviews of eligibility must be made on assistance cases to ensure that benefits are computed correctly. A redetermination is the process in which the caseworker gathers information on the circumstances of the case members and verifies all changeable elements to establish continuing eligibility. For changes in circumstances which happen after initial approval but outside of the annual renewal timeframe, please see 2215.00.00 (and following) further in this chapter.

The requirements for redetermination of eligibility at annual renewal are discussed in this section. Annual renewals will be conducted for both MAGI and non-MAGI individuals once a year.

The only groups which typically do not complete annual renewals are those for whom a determination of income or resources is not required: ongoing pregnancy/postpartum (12 months after pregnancy ends) members, foster children and those receiving Adoption Assistance, former foster children who aged out of foster care at age 18 and have not yet turned 26, and SSI recipients. Any changes in address or other household factors should be followed up on for these members when the change happens.

Ex-Parte (Automatic) Renewals

When it is time for annual renewal, the eligibility system will first attempt to gather electronic data to determine whether we have recent and reliable information which shows the member remains eligible. Common data sources which are checked are The Work Number and, for non-MAGI individuals, the Asset Verification System. If electronic data is returned showing the individual is still eligible for Medicaid, they qualify for an ex-parte renewal.

Where electronic data is not returned, the system will evaluate how recently any eligibility factors subject to change have been verified. If the individual has verified the required factors in the last six months (whether for a Medicaid benefit for someone in their household, or as a result of a SNAP application/recertification/interim report for their household), they qualify for an ex-parte renewal.

Individuals renewed on an ex-parte basis will be sent an approval notice which is prepopulated with the information (such as income, resources, and household members) which was used to make the determination. The notice will include instructions to notify DFR if any of the information is not correct. Changes reported after an ex-parte renewal has been completed are processed as changes in circumstances.

Individuals who do not qualify for ex-parte renewal will be sent a redetermination mailer as explained in 2205.15.00.

2205.05.00 ESTABLISHING THE REDETERMINATION (ANNUAL RENEWAL) MONTH

The redetermination month is the month during which eligibility is reevaluated for a new 12-month period. Federal regulations define the maximum time frames for completion of redeterminations for each program. Redeterminations (renewals) will be conducted for both MAGI and non-MAGI individuals once a year. If an individual is not determined to be eligible, their coverage will end on the last day of the redetermination month.

If there are multiple assistance groups in the case, the redetermination month for each individual may be different. The redetermination/renewal month is established based on the following requirements:

- Individuals under MAGI-based income must be redetermined once every 12 months, and no more frequently than once every 12 months¹
- For Non-MAGI Medicaid, a redetermination must be completed at least once every 12 months²
- In some cases where all information needed to redetermine eligibility is reconfirmed for the AG, an ex parte redetermination can be done to start a new 12-month eligibility period if additional members are not required to take any action and eligibility is passing.

A household consists of a mother and her child, who are both open in Medicaid. Their AG composition is identical (each is the only person included in the other's AG, and the income counted for each AG is the mother's). The mother's redetermination date is in March, and the child's redetermination is due in July. When the mother is successfully redetermined in March, we also know everything needed to redetermine the child ex parte, and the child continues to pass Medicaid eligibility. The child's redetermination due date will be set for a

new 12-month period to align with the mother. Both will be sent approval notices for a new 12-month period and will be due for redetermination again in March of the following year.

2205.10.00 SCHEDULING REDETERMINATION (ANNUAL RENEWAL) INTERVIEWS

Interviews cannot be required for MAGI or Non-MAGI Medicaid recipients who are having their eligibility redetermined due to annual renewal. (For more information, see 2205.15.00)

2205.15.00 REDETERMINATIONS (ANNUAL RENEWAL) BY MAILER

For both MAGI and non-MAGI cases, the agency makes a redetermination of eligibility without requiring information from the individual when possible. The redetermination is based on reliable information contained in the individual's account or other more current information available to the agency (such as data from The Work Number or the Asset Verification System). (see 2205.00.00),

If the agency is unable to automatically redetermine the eligibility of the individual, then an Eligibility Review Form (redetermination mailer) is sent.

Renewal Forms

When an individual cannot qualify for ex-parte (automatic) renewal, they will be sent a prepopulated mailer which tells them what information we currently have for them, asks them to tell us of any changes, and requires verification of noted eligibility factors subject to change. If more than one member of a Medicaid assistance group is due for renewal, a combined form will be sent. The form will include a due date of 30 days from the mailing date.

Note: If one member of the household qualified for ex-parte renewal and one member is required to complete the form, and the form is not returned, there will be no negative eligibility impact to individual who was ex-parte renewed.

Renewal forms may be completed by any of the following methods:

- By completing and signing the form by hand and mailing, faxing, or taking the form and any other required documentation to the DFR
- By completing and signing the form by hand and uploading the form and any other required documents to the member's online Benefits Portal account
- By answering the online renewal questions, uploading required documents, and electronically signing in the member's online Benefits Portal account
- At the member's request, a renewal interview can be completed over the phone and their signature recorded. If a Medicaid member requests an office or phone interview, one must be granted, however **interviews cannot be required for renewals for any member**. If the member has an interview scheduled and does not keep the

appointment, this should not cause a closure. They may still return the form and keep their coverage if they remain eligible.

The non-asset version is used when all assistance groups in a case are Hoosier Healthwise or HIP members that have no asset or resource requirements. The mailer includes a cover page with information about the process and instructions for returning the form.

The asset version is used when one or more of the AGs in a case have an asset or resource requirement. For example, if the members in a case are MA 2 and MA D, the asset version of the form is mailed. The mailer includes a cover page with information about the process and special circumstances involving asset disclosure, as well as instructions for returning the form. Individuals will be evaluated based only on eligibility factors which apply to their type of coverage. Using the prior example, if the form is returned with all needed information except asset verifications and is signed, the MAGI individual would be renewed (if still eligible), a 2032 should be sent for the non-MAGI member. If 2032 is not returned, then only the non-MAGI individual would be closed for failure to verify needed information.

The Eligibility Review Form is sent to the adult AG payee or parent/caretaker of a child AG. If a child is the only case member and there is no authorized representative, the form is sent to the child. A Notice of Redetermination (NOR) is sent to the other adult AG payees and authorized representatives listed as “ongoing” in the case informing them that the Eligibility Review Form has been sent. The NOR identifies the recipients who are being reviewed and the due date listed on the Eligibility Review Form.

- If the individual did not sign the form or more clarification is needed on the information they provided, the DFR should contact the member to request what is needed to complete the renewal process and if written verifications are required, allow 13 days for the missing information to be returned before discontinuing coverage.
- If the member fails to respond with required information and a signature, their coverage will be discontinued.
- A 90-day reconsideration period applies to annual renewals where coverage is closed for failing to return required information by the due date; for more information see 2238.25.00.
- Individuals who complied with the renewal process but were found ineligible will have their information transferred to the Federal Marketplace on the night that closure action is taken on the case. These individuals are eligible to apply on the Marketplace even outside of the typical annual open enrollment period.

2205.15.05 CHIP (MA 10) Renewals

CHIP members may qualify for ex-parte renewal if they meet the requirements, except for those who have overdue premium payments.

CHIP members who do not qualify for ex-parte renewal due to outdated information in the case or due to overdue premium payments will receive a must return mailer. When redetermining eligibility for this new 12-month period, CE protection is lifted, and normal eligibility rules apply. If a member fails to return mailer, documentation, and/or fails to pay outstanding premiums by the last day of the renewal month, benefits will be terminated. If outstanding payments are not received by the last day of the renewal month, members must reapply.

CHIP members discontinued at point of redetermination for failing to verify required information are entitled to 90-day reconsideration period (refer to 2238.25.00). If members come into compliance by submitting all required renewal documentation within this period, their case should be reviewed for a possible rescind. These individuals are not required to submit a new application.

- Individuals who come into compliance before the last day of the renewal month and continue to form CHIP (MA 10) should be restored to a fully open status
- Individuals who come into compliance after the last day of the renewal month, but in the 90-day reconsideration period, and continue to form CHIP (MA 10) should restart in a conditional status

There may sometimes be a delay in receiving a premium payment, and the record will come in after the case is set for closure. Based on the payment date, individuals who paid their outstanding payment(s) before the last day of the renewal month and meet all other eligibility requirements must be reviewed as a potential rescind and, if eligible, should be restored to a fully open status.

CHIP members closed at renewal for being over the income limit or for non-payment of premiums are not entitled to 90-day rescission period and a new application is required. Normal processing guidelines apply for any applications received on or after the effective date of closure. Children who meet all eligibility requirements for CHIP except for payment of the first premium(s) will start out in a “conditional” status until the first premium is received.

2215.00.00 CHANGES

The individual may report a change in circumstances or the DFR may learn of a change which could affect eligibility or the benefit amount. The worker is responsible for promptly evaluating the change and taking any indicated action to adjust the benefit. A person eligible under MASI reporting changes to DFR should be informed that the reported change (i.e., change of address) should also be reported to the Social Security Administration.

Changes in circumstances include, but are not limited to:

- Changes in income
- Changes in composition of the AG
- Changes in living arrangement

- Changes in resources
- Changes in the legal obligation to pay child support
- Changes in household tax relationship or tax filing status
- Changes in health insurance coverage.

2215.10.00 DATE CHANGE REPORTED

The date a change is reported is the date on which an individual reports the change in person at the DFR, by phone, by or fax, which is sent to the Document Center. This includes speaking directly to the worker or other staff member over the phone or in person. A Member can report changes using a change report form on the Portal. The date the portal change form is submitted on-line is the date a change is reported.

All reports of changes are to be accurately documented in Running Record Comments and should be entered into the eligibility system the same day the change is reported. The eligibility system establishes the date that the information is entered in the system as the date it was reported. The "occur date" is the date on which the change occurred.

2215.15.00 WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING CHANGES

Prompt action must be taken on all changes to determine if they affect eligibility. The case record must include the date the reported change was received, whether the change was reported by mail, telephone, the DFR Benefits portal, fax, or personal visit, the nature of change and any other appropriate information. The worker must take appropriate action on all reports of changed information promptly but no later than 10 days from the date of the receipt of the change.

The individual must be notified of any change in eligibility or benefit. In addition, if the change was reported by the AG, the AG will be notified even if there is no change in eligibility or benefit amount.

If the worker is made aware of discrepant information or information that could affect eligibility or level of benefits, but lacks enough information to determine the effect, he will issue a request for verification. This request should be issued on the date of receipt of the change if possible, outlining the needed information or verification, and giving the AG 13 days from the date the notice is issued to provide the information.

If the AG provides the requested information or verification within the designated 13-day period, the worker will take appropriate action. If the AG refuses to provide the requested information or verification within the designated 13-day period, the worker will, on the first day following expiration of the 13-day period, take action to recalculate eligibility and authorize the appropriate action for each AG. The worker must enter the appropriate reason code on Eligibility Determination Results Screen which reflects the element which the AG did not verify.

If a potential change in medical expenses is identified when the AG presents verification of expenses to meet the spend-down, the AG may be asked to confirm if a change has occurred. If the AG voluntarily provides all verification and information necessary to process the change, including the frequency of any new expenses and possible third-party liability, the change must be processed. If the AG is unable or unwilling to provide the necessary information/ verification, the change cannot be processed because the AG is not required to report or provide verification of medical expenses.

All medical expense changes identified from sources other than the household will not be acted upon unless all necessary verifications are obtained, and action can be taken without contacting the AG.

2220.00.00 PROCESSING CHANGES

Individuals are given 10 days to report the change, 13 days to verify the change, and if the action is negative, 10 days (plus three days for mail delivery) timely notice of adverse action. If the individual is doing all that he can to cooperate in verifying the information but is unable to do so, an extension may be granted or the DFR may accept the responsibility of verifying the information.

Document the reason for any extension in Case Notes. In either instance, if the individual and the worker are unable to adequately verify the information within a reasonable time, the worker is to use the best available information to process the change and document in Case Notes.

When it becomes necessary to take adverse action (that is, reduce the benefit level) on an AG, there must be time to give advance notice of the adverse action. This is referred to as timely notice. The time period is 13 calendar days for all programs.

The following sections discuss change processing.

2220.05.00 CHANGES REPORTED AND VERIFIED TIMELY

When a change is reported within 10 days of the date the change occurred and is also verified within 13 days of the report date, action is taken as indicated below.

When a change results in positive action or increases the level of benefit, including the addition of a mandatory AG member, the effective date of the change is the month following the month the change was verified. If the Eligibility System does not form the new benefit of as of the first following month, then the case should be reviewed for a possible fiat or override.

Positive changes are changes that will increase the level of benefits and include verification that a member moved into a nursing facility, reductions in income and additions to the household. If a reported change is received stating that a member moved into a nursing facility, this is considered a verified change. If all other eligibility criteria are met (including the data gathering

interview, all verifications received etc.), then the MA D category change will take place going forward to the next month.

Example 1:

On 03/01, a healthcare application is received for a disabled applicant; the applicant does not receive SSDI or SSI and there is no MRT determination. The applicant/AR is requesting dual processing for HIP and MA D.

On 03/15, the HIP is approved, and the POWER account is paid; the HIP is open 03/01.

On 03/27, verification that the member moved into a nursing facility is received, but the case is still pending a disability determination. On 04/02, MRT approves the MA D, and the case is authorized. Due to adverse timeframes, the HIP is ending 04/30 and the MA D is opening 05/01, but because the reported change of residing in a nursing facility was received 03/27, then the MA D should open 04/01. In this situation, the worker sets up an override /fiat to end the HIP effective 03/31 so a fiat or override can be completed for MA D starting 04/01. The HIP will remain in place for the month of March.

Example 2:

On 03/01, a healthcare application is received for a disabled applicant; the applicant does not receive SSDI or SSI and there is no MRT determination. The applicant has a pending waiver application. The applicant/AR is requesting dual processing for HIP and MA D.

On 03/15, the HIP is approved, and the POWER account is paid; the HIP is open 03/01. The waiver approval is received 03/25, and on 04/27, MRT approves the MA D.

Due to adverse timeframes, the HIP is ending 05/31 and the MA D is opening 06/01, but because the waiver approval was received 03/25, then the MA D should open 04/01. In this situation, contact PAL to end the HIP effective 03/31 so a fiat or override can be completed for MA D starting 04/01.

Example 3:

On 07/25, an individual reports that their last day of work was 07/18 and the last paycheck will be received 07/26. The recipient provides a statement from the employer on 07/30 (within the 13-day guidelines). The earnings are removed from the budget effective 08/01 and any increase in benefits will take place in the 08/01 budget, even if the authorization occurs after adverse.

If the AG's benefit level decreases, or the AG becomes ineligible because of the change, the decreases in the benefit level is effective according to the normal adverse processing guidelines. Using the same example as above, if the change was verified on 07/30, then a decrease in benefits would take place in the 09/01 budget.

See IHCPPM 4205.10.00 for information on Appealable Actions.

There are several exceptions to this, including the following:

- For individuals who become pregnant and are receiving coverage for Family Planning Services under MA E, if the individual reports that they are pregnant, eligibility for MAGP will need to be determined and coverage may be granted retroactively without requiring another application being filed. In such situations, the appropriate DFR staff member would need to create the new category with an override/fiat, if appropriate, to end date the MA E coverage so MAGP coverage could be granted.
- For an ongoing MA I recipient, if the member enters a nursing facility or is approved for a waiver, a review of the retroactive MA months should be completed to verify if the recipient is eligible for a full coverage category. After a thorough review of both income and resources is completed, and it has been determined that the recipient is eligible for retro months, then the assigned DFR staff member would need to create the new category with an override/fiat, if appropriate, to end date the MA I coverage so the full coverage MA could be granted.
- When a member reports a change after adverse that changes their PAC amount, the PAC changes will follow Adverse processing rules. This is because the member's Managed Care Entity (MCE) does "prospective billing" for POWER Account Payments, which means the member will have already been invoiced for following months. To reduce member confusion and possible system issues the new PAC amount, whether positive or negative, will not go into effect retroactively and does not need to be adjusted for current or past months.

The PAC change will be effective using normal Adverse (see 2232.00.00) rules if it is a negative change.

If the change is positive, it will be effective as of the next recurring month of eligibility that the system forms ("Recur"). If there are fewer than six days left in the month, the system has already formed the benefit for the immediately following month and will push the change forward.

Examples:

- A member reports an increase in income, and it is verified on 5/20. The MCE has already sent invoices for May and June coverage. Using normal Adverse rules (see 2232.00.00), the new PAC amount will go into effect 7/1.
- A member reports a decrease in income, and it is verified on 5/1. The MCE has already sent the invoice for May coverage. Using normal Recur rules, the new PAC amount will go into effect 6/1.

- A member reports a decrease in income, and it is verified on 5/29. The MCE has already sent the invoices for May and June coverage. Using normal Recur rules, the new PAC amount will go into effect 7/1.

If an ongoing HIP AG is determined eligible for a MED 1 or MED 4 category, then change processing guidelines must be followed. If the category change is processed after adverse, but before the end of the month, then please create the new category with an override/fiat to remove the ongoing months of coverage. Retro months cannot be removed.

In situations of dual processing, it is important to inform the applicant/AR that HIP coverage will not be removed for prior approved and fully open (not conditional) coverage. For applicants that are in a nursing facility or are in the process of being approved for a waiver, it is best practice to pursue the MA D process as opposed to processing for HIP coverage.

If a recipient is in a nursing home and was on HIP, a deviation can be completed for medical expenses incurred in a retro month that the recipient was eligible for HIP coverage, if the claim was not a HIP covered service. See IHCPPM 3455.15.10.

It is the provider's responsibility to work with the Managed Care Entity (MCE) regarding billing issues, up to and including obtaining prior authorization. If a provider was denied prior authorization or a bill was denied by the MCE, the provider must exhaust all grievances and appeals with the MCE before requesting the HIP removal. If the provider disagrees with the MCE determination, then this should be appealed with the MCE, not with the DFR.

If a request to remove pre-existing HIP coverage is received, then the removal will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If an actual provider generated bill, or copy of such a bill, is submitted that clearly shows that the provider has billed the Managed Care Entity (if applicable), that the claim was denied, and that the provider has exhausted all appeals and grievances with the MCE, then these can be reviewed by PAL for possible HIP removal; HIP removal is not guaranteed. Please send to PAL for a policy determination.

2220.10.00 CHANGES REPORTED UNTIMELY YET VERIFIED TIMELY

If a change is not reported within 10 days yet is verified within 13 days following the report date, action is taken as indicated below.

When the change results in an increase in benefits or other positive action, the change is effective the month following the date reported and verified.

Example 1:

An individual who is required to pay a premium for health coverage is fired from his job on 6/3 and received his last paycheck on 6/23. He called to report the change on 6/28. On 7/3 he faxes in his last paycheck stub. The caseworker verifies by phone that his last day was 6/3 and his last pay was 6/23. The loss of earnings is reflected 7/1 with a supplemental benefit of either a lower premium or no premium for health coverage beginning 7/1.

When the change results in a decrease in benefits or the AG becomes ineligible, the change is effective the month following the expiration of timely notice.

Example 2:

An individual begins a job on 5/26 which he reports on 7/19. His earnings require the payment of a premium for health coverage effective 9/1. Recovery is pursued for July and August. Refer to Chapter 4600.00.00.

2220.15.00 FAILURE OF ASSISTANCE GROUP TO REPORT CHANGES

If the DFR discovers that the AG failed to report a change as required above and as a result received benefits to which it was not entitled, a referral is made to Benefit Recovery to initiate claim determination and benefit recovery.

2220.20.00 CHANGES REPORTED AND NOT VERIFIED TIMELY

When a member reports a change, which would increase their benefit or decrease their PAC/premium/liability, and it is reported but not verified by the 13th day, the benefits should continue at the current amount until after the untimely verifications are provided. If they are not provided, the benefit should be left at the previous level except for incarceration (refer to 2237.10.00).

For example: A member reports a decrease in countable income from a job that has already been verified. The worker then sends a 2032 giving the member 13 days to verify the new income. If the decrease in income is not verified within the 13 days, the worker should leave the income at the previous reported/verified amount and reauthorize the case. When the untimely verifications are provided, the change should be implemented from the date the verification was provided rather than the date the change was reported. Normal adverse/recur logic applies.

2220.25.00 PROCEDURES WHEN MEDICAID FACILITY LOSES CERTIFICATION

When a Medicaid-certified long term care facility receives notification from the Department of Health that its Medicaid provider agreement will be terminated, a copy of the notification is sent to the Local DFR Office. Generally, the facility is given 30 days advance notice of the loss of certification. However, the facility does have appeal rights. If the facility appeals and the Department of Health rules that the patients are not in immediate danger, the facility's Medicaid

certification may be allowed to continue during a specified period while the deficiencies cited by the Department of Health are being remedied.

The DFR will need to stay in close communication with the facility concerning the facility's continuing Medicaid certification. Steps to change the recipients' data in IEDSS (Person Demographics – Details Page) should not be undertaken immediately by the worker upon receipt of the initial decertification letter. The facility's appeal status and any subsequent rulings of the Department of Health must be ascertained. If the worker cannot obtain the necessary documentation from the facility, the Central Office, Policy Answer Line, should be contacted.

2225.00.00 ADDING AN INDIVIDUAL TO THE AG (MED 2, MED 3)

Each Medicaid assistance group contains only one eligible person. Other individuals are mandatorily included for budgeting purposes, based on the household composition and income/asset rules for the category of the individual whose eligibility is being determined.

When adding an individual to the case, Medicaid benefits should not be selected for any new individual who does not already have Medicaid unless they have submitted an application.

The only exceptions are:

- A baby born to a mother who was eligible and enrolled for Medicaid on the date of the child's birth should be opened in MA X without requiring an application for the baby
- Individuals who are verified by the Social Security Administration interface (SDX) as SSI recipients, who are not already receiving Medicaid, should be opened into MASI coverage (this usually happens systematically without requiring action by a worker)
- Children who previously had MA 4 or MA 8 and are being transferred from the Department of Child Services to be determined for other Medicaid eligibility due to a change in ward/foster/adoption assistance status.

Note: An individual who has applied for or is receiving a Medicare Savings Program benefit may request to also be considered for full coverage Medicaid. This request does not have to be in writing; however, this should be limited to actual member or Authorized Representative request because there may be additional Estate Recovery considerations when changing/adding full coverage to MSP. (See 4705.00.00 for more information on Estate Recovery).

All relevant information for the individual/s being added to the case should be entered on the appropriate screens, and if additional information is needed to determine eligibility for any AG where the new individual's income/assets will count is needed, a request for information should be sent.

2225.10.00 ADDING A NEWBORN CHILD

An infant born alive to an individual enrolled in any MA category except MA10 is deemed eligible for Medicaid without an application for the infant being submitted. The baby is to be immediately added to IEDSS upon the agency receiving notification of the birth. Refer to Section 2428.00 for more information regarding eligibility in the Newborn category.

Health coverage under the Newborn category is effective the first day of the month in which the child is born and continues for 12 consecutive months. The only allowable reasons to discontinue MA before the end of the 12-month Newborn period are:

- The child no longer lives in Indiana
- The child's parent or caretaker provides a written voluntary withdrawal statement, or
- The child dies.

Newborn coverage continues regardless of whether the infant continues to live with the birth mother or whether the child ever lived with the birth mother in the case of adoption or other custody arrangement. However, if the child is adopted and the names and location of the adoptive parents are unknown, the child can only be covered for the duration of the hospitalization starting with the month of birth. If the infant has not been named, the name assigned to her/him by the hospital for identification purposes should be used.

Information sufficient to enroll the infant in the Newborn category is the child's name, sex, tax filing status and date of birth. Birth notification may be made by the parent; however, notification is also to be accepted from the hospital, authorized representative in the case, medical provider or Hoosier Healthwise health plan that can knowingly provide the required information.

Note: The tax filing status must be entered for newborns (Refer to 2418.00.00)

When the 12-month Newborn coverage period expires, eligibility under other medical categories must be explored and verified. The child was deemed to have applied at birth, and therefore an application cannot be required in pursuing a category change.

Newborn coverage does not extend to babies born to mothers covered under the MA 10 category (Hoosier Healthwise Package C). However, upon request by the parent/caretaker or other notification of the birth, an application is to be immediately provided or mailed to the family, or information given about obtaining an application from the internet. Hospitals and other Indiana Medical Providers that are Hoosier Healthwise enrollment centers should be encouraged to take the applications for newborns. They will know the eligibility status of the mother by using their Eligibility Verification System, which will indicate the benefit package of the mother.

2225.20.00 REMOVING AN INDIVIDUAL FROM THE CASE

Individuals who leave a case and do not have any open Medicaid benefits do not need to receive any notice of the change. If they are added to another case, see 2225.00.00 for guidance. Members with open Medicaid benefits must be immediately opened in their new case (Case 2) when they are removed from the case where they no longer live (Case 1).

If the member is removed from Case 1 and not opened in Case 2 right away, their benefits end, and they do not receive any notice or appeal rights. This can lead to a member unexpectedly being turned away at doctor's offices or at the pharmacy and must be avoided. Correcting the case later, while appropriate to do once we learn of such an error, still opens the member up to hardship during the time they remain closed.

Because Medicaid assistance groups only have one eligible member, a person with Medicaid who leaves the case should never be closed for that reason alone. Even if the member who left is a child and the worker does not know all the household members in the new case or parent/caretaker relationships, Medicaid must stay open with no breaks unless there is some known eligibility factor which makes the member fail.

If the new address for the member who leaves the case is unknown, the worker should send a request for information to the last known address. If attempts to learn the new address are not successful, the member may be closed with appropriate notice to the last known address; but if they later contact the office the closure should be rescinded if the time when the member's next annual redetermination (after the residency change) will have been due has not passed.¹ (also see 2238.06.00)

2232.00.00 TIMELY NOTICE OF ADVERSE ACTION

Recipients must be given timely, advance written notice of any adverse action. In most circumstances, "timely" is 10 days (plus 3 for mailing) before the date the action is effective. The 3-day mailing period starts the day after the notice is mailed. The Medicaid program has provisions which allow for exceptions to the 10 day (plus 3 for mailing) timely notice period¹. The following sections explain the MED timely notice exceptions.

Workers should carefully review the reason code/s displayed. It must be appropriate to the category and/or action. It is necessary that the reason code is carefully reviewed so that the notice will correctly reflect the reason benefits are terminating.

2232.10.00 EXCEPTIONS TO TIMELY NOTICE (MED)

The following situations do not require timely notice, but do require notice to be sent no later than the effective date of action:²

- The DFR has information confirming the death of a recipient.
- The DFR has received a voluntary withdrawal of assistance or reduction of coverage (See 2250.00.00 for written/verbal voluntary withdrawal policies).
- The DFR has verified that the recipient has been accepted for assistance in a new jurisdiction (county, state, territory, or commonwealth); or
- Recipient has been admitted to an institution where he is ineligible under current plan for further services (For example, member has been admitted to a facility which requires suspension of current coverage).

2235.00.00 CHANGES IN CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE (CLEVIDENCE RULING) (MED)

When a Medicaid member loses eligibility under their current category of assistance, eligibility under all potential categories must be explored. If the case record contains information that a member is potentially eligible in another category, a new pending category will be formed by the Eligibility System according to the member's recorded information reflected in their case file and the Medicaid categorical hierarchy (see IHCPPM 2035.30.00).

If there is no information indicating possible eligibility under another category, Medicaid is to be discontinued. If the member is found to be ineligible in the newly formed category, Medicaid is to be discontinued. When eligibility is to be discontinued, a discontinuance notice is mailed to the member, which contains a list of all applicable categorical groups. If the client supplies information indicating potential eligibility under another categorical group prior to the member's effective date of discontinuance, Medicaid eligibility must be reinstated while eligibility under the new potential category is being determined.

When a change is reported that results in a potential new Medicaid category, Medicaid benefits continue without interruption. If the person is required to pay a CHIP or MEDWorks premium, continued eligibility is conditional upon the first day of the first month the premium categorical coverage begins. Whenever there is an adverse action, members must be given timely notice before the effect of the adverse action takes place. Please, refer to IHCPPM 2232.00.00. MEDICAID MUST NOT BE INTERRUPTED WHILE A DETERMINATION IS BEING MADE CONCERNING THE MEMBER'S ELIGIBILITY IN THE NEW CATEGORY.

If an individual self-attests to being pregnant (refer to IHCPPM 2426.00.00), then eligibility may be considered under that category. For ongoing members (including those authorized conditionally), once pregnancy is reported there should be no closure for income considerations until after the end of the postpartum period.

Additional Information Needed to Determine Category Changes: If the eligibility status for a member under a new category is pending because of missing verification(s), the worker must send the Medicaid Category Change Form, FI 0017, to the member. Form FI 0017 must be completed by a worker and sent to the member with a 13-day deadline. If the additional information that is needed is more than what can fit on the FI 0017 Form, then an additional

2032 should be sent along with the FI 0017 Form. If the client fails to contact the DFR by the due date specified on Form 0017, Medicaid is to be discontinued. If the client contacts the DFR any time after receipt of the discontinuance notice and provides information which was specified on Form 0017, the client must come into compliance prior to the effective date of discontinuance to have eligibility continued. (Refer to IHCPPM 2040.00.00). If the DFR is contacted after the effective date of discontinuance, the client will have to re-apply.

If the category change for an ongoing member is from one MAGI category to another, one non-MAGI category to another, or non-MAGI to MAGI; and the income is not questionable, income does not need to be requested again unless it is required for an active annual redetermination. For category changes from MAGI to non-MAGI, or a change to add full coverage Medicaid to a Medicare Savings Program (QMB/SLMB/QI/QDW) only member, a data gathering interview must be scheduled to review current income, gather information on resources to include the lookback period (IHCPPM 2640.10.10), and (if applicable) determine disability status. If the missing information is related to blindness or disability not being verified (see IHCPPM 2412.10.00 and 2412.30.00) for the member, then DFR must conduct the Social Summary and collect Medical Evidence (refer to IHCPPM 2412.10.00 and IHCPPM 2412.30.05) for the preparation of the medical packet to be sent to MRT for a determination of disability or blindness (refer to IHCPPM 2412.15.15 and IHCPPM 2412.50.00).

Once a member responds timely providing additional information to continue eligibility and provides sufficient verification to determine eligibility under the new category, Medicaid eligibility continues without interruption. If the member provides information indicating possible eligibility under another category but does not provide sufficient verification, FI 2032 must be sent providing a 13-day deadline requesting the new verifications needed for eligibility determination under the new category. If the missing information is not returned by the due date on the 2032, Medicaid eligibility is to be discontinued.

HCBS Waiver Considerations: HIP will not pay for most institutional or HCBS waiver services. If an ongoing Hoosier Healthwise child is in an institution or on an approved HCBS waiver and they are forming a HIP category due to turning age 19, a data gathering interview must be scheduled and the member should be explored for disability Medicaid. In this instance, the Hoosier Healthwise category should continue until eligibility is determined for disability Medicaid. If the member fails eligibility or fails to cooperate in establishing the MA D category, then HIP should be explored.

For ongoing HIP members, if HCBS waiver approval is received, a data gathering interview should be scheduled to determine eligibility for disability coverage.

Example 1:

A parent lives with her only child and receives MAGF. The child is seventeen and turns eighteen. The parent is no longer eligible to receive MAGF because she is no longer the caretaker of a dependent under 18. DFR notices that she previously claimed she was disabled but had never had disability determined by MRT or SSA. A Form FI 0017 is sent to the parent and prior to the deadline on that form, she contacts DFR and re-claims that she is disabled. DFR conducts the interview to complete Form 251B, Determination of Disability Social Summary, and the worker requests medical records in accordance with IHCPPM 2412.30.05. Unless medical records are not timely received due to a failure by the member, Medicaid will continue until MRT renders a determination that she does not meet the disability determination. If MRT determines that she is disabled and she meets all other criteria for MA D, her coverage under MAGF will be discontinued but she will then be granted MA D coverage.

Example 2:

An ongoing MA 2 member with an approved HCBS waiver turns 19, and HIP is forming. HIP is not a waiver compatible category and will not pay for waiver services (IHCPPM 3310.00.00). Per Clevidence rules, the MA 2 should not be closed and a data gathering interview for disability Medicaid must be scheduled (IHCPPM 2005.00.00). The member complies with data gathering interviews and completes the Social Summary. All documents are submitted including records. MRT approves the disability, and the MA D is approved going forward.

2236.00.00 REDUCTION IN SCOPE OF MEDICAID COVERAGE (MED)

The following circumstances will result in the DFR taking action to reduce the scope of benefits. These are adverse actions requiring timely notice.

- A recipient formerly eligible for full coverage becomes eligible for QMB-only, SLMB-only, or QI coverage
- A recipient eligible for full benefits loses eligibility for payment of nursing facility services or Home and Community-Based Services due to a violative transfer of property
- A recipient who was eligible for QMB-only coverage becomes eligible for SLMB-only coverage
- A recipient who was eligible for SLMB-only coverage becomes eligible for QI coverage
- A recipient who was receiving full coverage becomes eligible for Family Planning Services for Women and Men.

2237.00.00 MEDICAID RESOURCE SUSPENSION (MED 1)

For Medicaid (MA) members residing in a nursing home or on HCBS waivers, if a change in circumstances causes temporary resource or asset ineligibility for Medicaid (MA), the member may be suspended for up to two months. This can only be done in situations where it is reasonably certain that the individual will again be resource eligible after the suspension period.

If there is a specified plan to spend the excess to the allowable limit without violating the transfer of property law, a suspension may be appropriate. If the member is eligible before the end of the suspension period, eligibility is to be reinstated without a reapplication. If after the suspension period the recipient remains ineligible, Medicaid must be discontinued (timely notice is required.) It is the member's responsibility to verify how the resources/assets were spent and that they are under the resource limit for Medicaid. For more information on resource limits, see IHCPPM 3005.10.00 and 3005.25.00.

Note that change processing rules apply (see IHCPPM 2220.00.00 – 2220.20.00).

Example1:

A long-term care member (nursing home or HCBS waiver) is over resources and get suspended. They verify within 60 days that they appropriately spent the resources, then the Medicaid (MA) can be reopened ongoing without a new application. If they verify within 60 days, then the worker will process the unsolicited documents, and the case will be reopened.

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 04/30 – Verification is received that the member was under the resource limit as of 04/01 with verification that the funds were used to privately pay the nursing home
- Based on change processing rules and that the verification was received on 04/30, the Medicaid (MA) can be reopened 05/01

Example 2:

A long-term care member (nursing home or HCBS waiver) is over resources, they get suspended for up to 60 days.

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 05/01 – Verifications were not received by the due date, so the Medicaid (MA) is closed
- 05/05 – Verifications are received after the closure; the Medicaid (MA) remains closed

Example 3:

A long-term care member (nursing home or HCBS waiver) is over resources, they get suspended for up to 60 days. Prior to the suspension date, verification is received that the member is below the resource limit; no funds were given away or transferred.

- 02/14 – Suspension notice is sent with suspension beginning 03/01
- 02/21 – Verifications are received showing that the member is under the resource limit (no funds were given away or transferred)

03/05 – Worker pulls the task and sees that the verifications are in the ECF prior to the effective date; Medicaid (MA) is reinstated effective 03/01

Example 4:

A suspended member fails to verify resources by the end of the 60-day suspension period, then the Medicaid (MA) is closed. The notice is sent and gives appeal rights that if they appeal timely, benefits will continue without change. In this scenario, the correct action is to suspend, not reopen the benefits.

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 05/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is closed for failure to verify resources
- 05/15 – Appeal is filed, the member does not qualify for continued benefits but for suspended benefits

Example 5:

A suspended members Medicaid gets closed, but the unsolicited documents are in the ECF (within 60 days of suspension). The member was eligible in month 2 of the suspension period. The worker should fiat months in which the member was eligible (in this scenario, month 2 and open ongoing).

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 03/30 – Verification is received that the member was under the resource limit as of 04/01 with verification that the funds were used to privately pay the nursing home
- 05/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is closed
- 05/15 – The worker finds that the verification was received 03/30, the Medicaid (MA) is reinstated as of 04/01

Example 6:

A suspended member submits bank statements showing they are under the resource limit, but it is unknown how the resources were spent down. A 2032 must be sent to verify how the funds were spent.

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 03/30 – Verification is received that the member was under the resource limit as of 04/01, but there is no verification showing how the resources were spent down
- A 2032 is mailed requesting verification of how the funds were spent (due 04/13)
- 04/10 – Verification that the resources were spent to pay the nursing home charges (this is allowable) so the Medicaid (MA) is reinstated as of 04/01

Example 7:

A suspended member submits bank statements showing they are under the resource limit, but it is unknown how the resources were spent down. A 2032 must be sent to verify how the funds were spent.

- 03/01 – The Medicaid (MA) is suspended
- 03/30 – Verification is received that the member was under the resource limit as of 04/01, but there is no verification showing how the resources were spent down; the resources are updated in the eligiblity system
- Worker updates the resource but adds a penalty to the TOP screen as unverified

- A 2032 is mailed requesting verification of how the funds were spent (due 04/13)
- 04/14:
 - No verifications were submitted, or
 - Verification that the funds were given away is received
- In both scenarios, the worker updates the transfer of property
- The Medicaid (MA) is reinstated 04/01 with a transfer of property penalty

2237.05.00 SUSPENSION INCARCERATION/PSYCHIATRIC ADMISSION

When a recipient becomes incarcerated or is admitted to a psychiatric facility that results in ineligibility, the individual's health coverage should be suspended, not discontinued.³ The case action for either condition is always suspension, provided the incarceration or psychiatric facility stay will last at least 30 days. Health Coverage benefits will be suspended until the member is released from the facility.⁴ There is no limit on the number of times a recipient can be suspended.

For applications and category changes which require a data gathering interview (refer to 2005.00.00 and 2005.05.15), whenever possible, the interview should occur prior to the individual's release from the institution. This ensures that individuals will have health coverage at release, if eligible.⁵ Coverage cannot be reinstated prior to an individual's release (refer to 2237.10.00).

For incarcerated individuals, the suspension policy applies to all MED categories regardless of the age of the recipient. For information on members in a State Operated Facility, see IHCPMM 1623.00.00.

Incarceration or psychiatric admissions which will last for less than 30 days do not require review of the change in circumstances.

Upon receiving notification that a recipient is institutionalized for at least 30 days, a review of the change in circumstances is required to determine whether the recipient remains eligible in the institution (in the case of a psychiatric admission) and what impact there is on other case members and other program eligibility. For children who enter juvenile detention facilities, correctional facilities, and secure facilities not licensed as child-care facilities, state law requires the juvenile court that adjudicated the delinquency to notify the DFR of the detention.

During the period of suspension, case management activity such as redeterminations, processing data exchange updates, etc., will not occur when there are no other eligible recipients in the case.⁶

2237.10.00 REINSTATEMENT OF BENEFITS FOR SUSPENDED INDIVIDUALS

Once it is reported that member is no longer incarcerated or has been released from the psychiatric facility, the Medicaid category should be reinstated. Benefits for individuals who are in suspend status in accordance with Section 2237.05.00, are to be reinstated without a reapplication if the individual returns to an eligible living arrangement.

The DFR can use the member or AR's self-attestation as verification of release from incarceration, unless questionable.

Coverage for HIP members should start first of the month in the month release date is reported.

In HIP cases the individual will be opened in Basic, with a potential plus flag, regardless of whether they are below or above 100% of the FPL. The member will be given 60 days, from the date of authorization, to pay the PAC payment. If the PAC is not paid within the 60 days, members who are below 100% of the FPL will remain in Basic and members who are above 100% of the FPL will be closed.

Coverage for non-HIP members can retro back up to 90 days prior to the month of report, as long as the member was not incarcerated for those months. In the case of MA10 or MADW with a premium, the AG must be conditionally approved within the 40 days of release/discharge. Follow up verification of eligibility factors is required on reported information and discrepant information.

2238.00.00 DISCONTINUANCE

When an AG fails to meet the eligibility requirements of any category within a program, assistance is discontinued for that program. Discontinuance is effective the first day of the month following the expiration of the required timely notice.

2238.05.00 DISCONTINUANCE DUE TO DEATH

When a recipient is deceased, the Person-Details page needs to be updated with the date of death and verification would need to be selected. This action will invoke ED/BC and the AG can then be closed. It is crucial to enter the correct date of death to ensure claims will not be paid in error.

2238.06.00 DISCONTINUANCE DUE TO WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

When mail is returned as undeliverable with no forwarding address, efforts must be made to confirm the correct address, including checking documents in the case records, calling the individual at the phone number(s) on record, checking all available electronic resources and sending a 2032 address verification request to the last known address in the case record or to an authorized representative. Sending the pending request form may of course result in another returned mail, but it is an important step to ensure that the client is not discontinued inappropriately.

If it becomes necessary to discontinue assistance because the client cannot be located and mail has been returned as undeliverable with no forwarding address, timely notice is required.

If the closed member's address becomes known during their eligibility period (the time before their next redetermination would have been due), the closure must be rescinded.²

2238.10.00 CLOSED CASE FILES

When all the AGs in a case are closed, the system will automatically transfer the case to closed files 90 days after the effective date of the discontinuance.

2238.15.00 CERTIFICATES OF MEDICAID COVERAGE

On August 21, 1996, The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was enacted. This law is designed to improve the availability of health insurance to working families and their children, including eligible individuals who have previous coverage under Medicaid.

The provision of the law that directly affects the Division of Family and Children is the requirement concerning the issuance of certificates of creditable coverage. An individual, who enrolls in a health care plan that imposes an exclusionary period for a pre-existing medical condition, may be able to have that period reduced by prior coverage under another plan, including Medicaid.

The DFR must issue the Certificate of Medicaid Coverage (FI Form 0021) to the individual so that he can present it as documentation to the new health insurance plan. Periods of Medicaid eligibility beginning July 1, 1996, for all full coverage categories and the pregnancy-related category, except as explained below, are included as creditable coverage:

- Exclude QMB-Only, SLMB-Only, and QI coverage. Unlike the pregnancy-related categories, these categories do not provide coverage of regular Medicaid services.
- Exclude months of ineligibility for which a recovery claim has been established and is currently in dispute through the administrative hearing process.
- Exclude months the person did not meet spend-down.

The following procedures are to be used when issuing the certificate:

1. The IEDSS discontinuance notices for reasons other than death of the recipient contain the following paragraph which notifies the assistance groups that Certificates of Creditable Coverage are available upon request:

Important information about health insurance coverage. If you enroll in a health insurance plan that does not give you coverage for a preexisting medical condition, you may need to furnish proof of your Medicaid benefits. Ask the Plan Administrator of your health insurance about this. If you need proof of Medicaid eligibility, contact the caseworker whose name is on the first page of this notice and ask for a Certificate of Medicaid Coverage. When it is necessary to issue a manual discontinuance notice (619M), workers must include the above paragraph in the additional information section of the notice. If the recipient's Medicaid coverage since 7-1-96 consisted solely of QMB only or SLMB only, it is not necessary to include the paragraph. However, if since that time, the person had full coverage or pregnancy-related coverage the paragraph must be entered on the notice.

2. Upon request by a former recipient, the FI Form 0021, Certificate of Medicaid Coverage, must be completed and mailed first class to the individual within 10 working days of the request. The DFR is encouraged to try to accommodate requests made in person by giving the certificate to the individual at the time of the request. However, if this is not possible, the aforementioned time frame should be met. When mailing the Certificate, the current address should be obtained from the individual rather than relying on the last address in IEDSS. As an alternative to mailing a Certificate, it can be faxed directly to the health care plan administrator, or the information can be provided by phone to the administrator only if the following conditions are met: (1) The individual requests it; and (2) The alternative method being requested by the individual is acceptable to the plan administrator. If the two conditions are not met, the Certificate must be mailed to the individual.
3. As a general rule, one Certificate is completed per family. However, separate certificates are to be provided if requested. This could be needed if, for example, children are being enrolled in different insurance plans held by non-custodial parents.
4. Enter the name and address of the DFR and indicate the name and telephone number of a contact person in case the health insurance plan has any questions. This person can be the recipient's worker, or anyone designated in the DFR to serve as coordinator for matters concerning the certificates.
5. Enter the name of each recipient in the family requesting the Certificate. Note that the Certificates do not necessarily have to correspond to the former assistance groups. For example, one AG may have been a child living with grandmother and the other AG in another case was the child's sibling and mother. When the certificate is requested, the mother and her 2 children are now living together. Unless there is a reason to issue separate certificates as requested by the family, or because there are too many eligibility periods, one certificate using all 3 recipients and their Medicaid coverage periods should be issued.
6. Enter the recipient's Medicaid number, i.e., the RID, not the case number.

7. List all creditable coverage periods after July 1, 1996, up to the present time without regard to category changes. For example, if a child were on MA 2 from 1/1/97 to 6/30/97 and MA D from 7/1/97 to 9/30/97, the entry on the certificate would be BEGIN 1/1/97 END 9/30/97

Coverage prior to July 1, 1996, should not be listed. If an individual had coverage prior to July 1, 1996, enter the begin date on the certificate as July 1996. If the person is currently on Medicaid, enter "currently covered" in the end date box.

The statement on the Certificate which states that prior breaks in coverage may be included is information for health insurance companies only. The law specifies that certain coverage that has been interrupted cannot count as creditable coverage. The insurance company determines how creditable coverage is applied to an exclusionary period and the statement on the Certificate is simply to alert them to the fact that all coverage periods, regardless of breaks, are being reported on the form. The following is an example of how to enter eligibility periods on a Certificate:

Example:

Recipient was eligible from 10/96 through 11/97 with a spend-down. He met his spend-down in the months of 10/96, 12/96, 3/97, and 10/97. Entries on the Certificate should be listed as follows: BEGIN END 10/02/96 10/31/96 12/05/96 12/31/96 03/10/97 03/31/97 10/01/97 10/31/97 (Months that the spend-down is not met are not listed, and the DFR should inquire of HP what months spend-down was/was not met.)

2238.20.00 CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 19

Effective 1/1/24, children under the age of 19 who are determined or redetermined eligible for any category of Medicaid will remain continuously eligible until their next annual redetermination. Medicaid coverage is to be retained for a full 12 months regardless of income or other factors that would otherwise cause the child to be discontinued. The continuous eligibility period (CE) and/or category is established or reestablished by the effective date of the member's application decision or annual redetermination decision (can include retro coverage); whichever is most recent.⁷ Where CE and TMA both exist for a child; they should receive the longest possible protected period based on whether the TMA or the CE ends first." Category changes from full (Package A, Medicaid or HHW) to limited (Package C, MA 10) benefits are not allowed, and closure should only happen for these reasons:

- Death
- Moved out of State
- Voluntary withdrawal (See 2250.00.00 for written/verbal voluntary withdrawal policies).
- Child attains age 19

- Eligibility was determined incorrectly due to agency errors, fraud, or false information provided by the child or child’s representative

When redetermining eligibility for a new 12-month period, CE protection is lifted, and normal eligibility rules apply. If the child is no longer eligible, benefits can be denied at redetermination. If the child is still under 19 and is redetermined to be eligible, a new protected CE period begins except for where CE and TMA co-exist for a child. When both CE and TMA exist for a child, member should receive the longest possible protected period based on whether the TMA or the CE ends last.

Example 1:

In January, an application is submitted for a child who is 18 years old, and MA 2 is authorized with three months of retroactive coverage. The CE period is set as January through December.

In June, income increases and MA 10 forms for the child. Because MA 10 is not equivalent coverage, MA 2 coverage will continue to form until redetermination.

At the redetermination in December, MA 10 continues to form and can be authorized for the next CE period, which will start in January of the new year and continue until that December.

If a child turns 19 anytime during the CE period, coverage can close. If a member meets eligibility requirements for HIP coverage, HIP can be authorized.

Change reporting (other than a change of address) is not required for a child in a CE period. If redetermination is done for other family members during the child’s CE period, the family is not required to verify any income or assets belonging to the child as they pertain to the child’s eligibility. If the family chooses to verify anyway, the following changes can be made: The child can move from Package C to another medical assistance category. MA 10 premiums can be decreased or increased.

While other category changes may occur during the CE period, a child covered under traditional Medicaid or Hoosier Healthwise Package A is not to be moved to Package C (MA 10) as this would entail the closure of Medicaid. Members can only transition from Package C (MA 10) to Medicaid during the CE period, but not the other way around. Approval of Package C can only be permitted during the child’s Medicaid redetermination.

Example 2:

A child is initially approved for MA 10 coverage. In month 4 of the CE period, his mother is due for redetermination. Her Medicaid is closed for failing to provide updated income. Medicaid for the MA 10 child must be left open (even if premium is unpaid).

In month 6 of the child's CE period, the needed information to rescind the redetermination denial is provided and the income causes the child's premium to increase. Because he was already receiving MA 10 and this is not a category change, it can be authorized.

In month 8, the child's mother reports that she is getting fewer hours at work. The newly verified income causes his MA 10 to switch to MA 9. Because this is a beneficial category change, it can be authorized.

It should be noted that children are deemed eligible for coverage in MA X due to their mother's Medicaid status. Redeterminations are not set for this category; instead, eligibility under a new category of medical assistance must be determined when the child turns 1. Except for citizenship, the usual eligibility factors (including social security number) are to be verified. If found eligible, the child's first CE period would begin the month the new category is authorized.

Newborns who are hospitalized and/or individuals under 19 who would be eligible for Medicaid if they were in a medical institution qualify for continuous eligibility.⁸

2238.20.05 CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY PERIODS FOR CHILDREN IN MA 4, MA 8 AND MASI

MASI/MA 4/MA 8 children under age 19 are entitled to continuous eligibility, but these categories do not have redetermination dates set. If eligibility fails in one of these categories, the CE period may need to be manually calculated.

When MA 4/MA 8/MASI Fails:

If all required income is in the case and has been verified in the last six months, Hoosier Healthwise (HHW) which forms and passes may be authorized. This will be considered a new determination of eligibility, and a new 12-month CE period will begin.

If income is not present or has not been verified in the last six months, the case should be pending and a 2032 sent for updated information. If this is returned, HHW which forms and passes may be authorized. This will be considered a new determination of eligibility, and a new 12-month CE period will begin.

The exception is if MA10 forms – When MA 10 forms, it is considered a downgrade which cannot be authorized until redetermination time. An override for MA 9 should be performed. At redetermination, MA10 can be allowed to form and be authorized conditionally, pending the first premium payment. (A change from MA10 to another HHW category is allowed at any time.) If an individual fails all other equivalent eligibility categories or does not comply with returning documents needed, a PAL should be submitted. Members who do not meet eligibility requirements will not be entitled to a new/full 12-month CE period. Their CE period will be calculated using the month of their most recent period of unbroken eligibility and go forward 12 months from that month. A PAL should be submitted so that OMPP can determine the appropriate category and redetermination date. OMPP will need to complete a Netfor ticket to establish the redetermination date based on the remaining months in the calculated CE period.

Example 1:

A child who is aged 15 began receiving MA 4 effective 4/01. Wardship terminates 12/17 and child is transferred to mother's case. Parents' income is current (within 6 months) and within the income standard for another HHW category. IEDSS forms categories based on the Medicaid hierarchy and member transitions to MA 9 effective 2/01. A new CE period is established at authorization.

Example 2:

A child who is age 10 began receiving MASI coverage effective 5/1. An SDX record indicating disability status has terminated is received and no appeal is made to SSA within the allowed timeframe. Income is not present in the case. A 2032 is mailed to explore HHW categories:

1. The income and other necessary verifications are not returned by the due date. A fiat for MA 2 should be completed and a PAL sent requesting that the redet date be set in IEDSS. In this case, the continuous eligibility began 05/01 making the redet date 04/30. PAL will verify the date and send a ticket to set the redet date.
2. Income is returned but the member is over the income limit. A fiat for MA 9 should be completed and a PAL sent requesting that the redet date be set in IEDSS. In this case, the continuous eligibility began 05/01 making the redet date 04/30. PAL will verify the redet date and send a Helpdesk ticket to set the redet date. LO will not need to submit Helpdesk ticket. PAL response will include renewal date and ticket number.
3. This income is returned and a HHW category forms. IEDSS will set the CE period.

Note: If a MASI child is no longer considered disabled by SSA and is approved for an HCBS waiver, an HHW category would be appropriate and will not cause the child to lose their waiver services during the CE period. Although individuals are not required to apply for disability with SSA, SSA denials supersede MRT disability determination; these restrictions also apply to children under 18. See IHCPPM 2412.25.00 and 2412.50 for more information regarding SSA disability.

2238.25.00 REDETERMINATION 90-DAY EXTENSION FOR FAILURE TO VERIFY

If an AG is discontinued for failing to verify required information during the re-determination process, the DFR must timely consider eligibility without requiring the AG to submit a new application when the missing verification(s), which were the reason(s) for discontinuance, are received by DFR within 90 days after the AG had eligibility effectively discontinued.

If an AG is denied eligibility, this sub-section is inapplicable. If an AG is discontinued for failing to verify required information after a report of change has been received by DFR, this sub-section is

inapplicable. If an AG is discontinued at point of redetermination for any reason(s) other than failing to verify required information, such as being over income, this subsection is inapplicable.

2239.00.00 CORRECTION OF LIABILITY (MED 1)

In specific circumstances, liability amounts which are higher than they should be, can be corrected to a lower amount by completing a liability override. Acceptable reasons to complete the override are as follows:

- Timely appeal filed after cut-off
- Beneficial change timely reported and verified after cut-off
- Agency error in calculation of spend-down or liability amount
- Hearing decision decreased spend-down or liability amount
- Court ordered decreased spend-down or liability amount

No other reasons are acceptable in using the liability override function. If a worker encounters a circumstance not listed above and feels the liability correction should be made, contact PAL.

2240.00.00 AG CHANGES ADDRESS

Moving to a new address in Indiana, in and of itself, does not cause ineligibility. A new living situation may trigger new elements to be verified; however, eligibility must not lapse while the systematic process of changing cases is completed.

2250.00.00 VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM ASSISTANCE

A recipient may voluntarily withdraw from assistance at any time. The withdrawal may be made in writing or verbally.

If a request is made over the phone the call will be recorded for future reference, and a case note should be made that a withdrawal request was made over the phone with relevant details. A separate written request is not required.

If a request to withdraw from assistance is made verbally in person, a signed statement should be added to the case file.

For verbal voluntary withdrawals, eligibility should be discontinued based on the member's request without requiring separate written confirmation.

Please note that discontinuance due to voluntary withdrawal should be effective the end of the month in which the request is made.

¹ 42 CFR 431.231(d)

² 42 CFR 431.213

³ IC 12-15-1-20.4(a)

⁴ IC 31-37-22-9

⁵ IC 12-15-1-20.4(b)

⁶ IC 12-15-1-20.4

⁷ 42 CFR 435.926(c)(2)

⁸ 1902(e)(3) of the Act and 42 CFR 435.225