

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

4/11/11

DIVISION: Office of Health Insurance Programs

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GIS 11 MA/005

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Judith Arnold, Director
Division of Coverage and Enrollment

SUBJECT: 2011 Federal Poverty Levels

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Local District Support Unit
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The purpose of this GIS message is to inform the local department of social services (LDSS) of revised federal poverty levels (FPLs). The revised FPLs are effective January 1, 2011, and are the actual poverty levels published in the Federal Register on January 20, 2011.

The new FPLs are effective for cases with budget "From" dates of January 1, 2011 or later. The revised figures will be available on MBL April 11, 2011. For all new and pending applications, income must be compared to the revised FPLs. When districts have determined that previously budgeted cases with a "From" date of January 1, 2011, have been negatively affected, or if cases are brought to the districts attention, such cases should be rebudgeted using the revised FPLs. If eligible, covered medical expenses paid by an individual as a result of improper calculations must be reimbursed pursuant to 10 OHIP/ADM-9 "Reimbursement of Paid Medical Expenses Under 18 NYCRR §360-7.5(a)."

A chart with the new FPLs is attached to this GIS. Please see the previously issued GIS 10 MA/26, "2011 SSI, LIF/SCC Medicaid Standard and Medicaid Income and Resource Levels," for other pertinent eligibility determination information.

As a result of the increase in the FPLs, the amount used in the Family Member Allowance (FMA) formula increased to \$1,839. The maximum FMA increased to \$613. All spousal impoverishment cases involving a family member entitled to the family member allowance, which were active on or after January 1, 2011, and which were budgeted using the 2010 family member allowance, must be rebudgeted using the new family member allowance. In addition, the increased family member allowance must be used effective January 1, 2011 in determining any requested contribution of income from a community spouse or from a spouse living apart from a SSI-related applicant/recipient. Budget adjustments should be made at next contact or renewal.

Further information will be forthcoming in an Upstate WMS Coordinator Letter and MBL transmittal.