

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
JFK Federal Building, Government Center
Room 2275
Boston, Massachusetts 02203



Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations / Boston Regional Office

July 9, 2010

Brenda M. Harvey, Commissioner
Department of Health and Human Services
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

Dear Ms. Harvey:

We are pleased to enclose a copy of approved State plan amendment (SPA) No. 10-005. This SPA is effective April 1, 2010 as requested.

This SPA transmitted an amendment to your approved Title XIX State plan to comply with the requirements of §112 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA), P.L. 110-275. This provision amends §1905(p)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to make the resource limit for Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB) and Qualified Individuals (QI) conform to the resource limit for individuals who qualify for the full subsidy Medicare Part D low-income subsidy. It requires States to increase the resource exemption for individuals eligible as QMBs, SLMBs and QIs to three times the resource limits of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Prior to MIPPA, the resource exemption was twice the SSI limit.

We are approving this SPA as revised. As agreed to by your staff, we removed the text that begins "the State applies more restrictive eligibility standards..." from Attachment 2.2-A, page 9a and renumbered the page as page 9b. On item 25 of the newly number page 9b, we removed the statutory citation "1860D-14(a)(3)(D) of the Act". We renumbered the page 9b in the original submission to page 9b1. We moved the text on page 9c to page 9b1. We deleted page 9c from the proposed SPA. On item 9 to page 22a to Attachment 2.6-A, we eliminated the statutory citation "1860D-14(a)(3)(D) of the Act".

With respect to the Transmittal and Notice of Approval of State Plan Material (CMS-179), we added the statutory citations "1902(a)(10)(E)(i)-(iv), 1905(p)(3) and 1860D-14(a)(3)(D)" in box 6. We also revised box 8 to reflect the correct page numbers of the attachment.

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We reviewed this SPA for compliance with §1902(a)(73) of the Act as added by §5006(e) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5. We determined that this SPA would benefit all Medicaid beneficiaries and providers including members of federally recognized tribes and Indian Health Services contract health services providers. We ask that your Department inform the federally recognized tribes in your state of the changes brought forth by the Recovery Act and this SPA.

If there are questions, please contact Chong Tieng. He can be reached at (617) 565-9157.

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard R. McGreal
Associate Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Tony Marple, Director, Office of MaineCare Services