

MAGI-BASED ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION PLAN
 (Insert Medicaid, CHIP, or Both)
 State: Medicaid & CHIP
 Mississippi
 Last updated: 10/13/2016

Section A. Verification Procedures for Factors of Eligibility

Eligibility Factor	Self-Attestation Accepted without Additional Verification (Y/N)	Self-Attestation Accepted with Post-Eligibility Verification (Y/N)	Electronic Data Source Used (Y/N)	Reasonable Compatibility Standard Used	Specify Reasonable Compatibility Standard for Income	Ask for a Reasonable Explanation from the Individual (Y/N)	Paper Documentation Required from the Individual (Y/N)	Comments
Income*	NO	NO	YES	Both are above, at or below the applicable income standard. Dollar Threshold	\$50	YES	YES	When the self-attested income is below the applicable standard and the electronic data source indicates income is above the applicable standard, the \$50 threshold is applied. If the difference between the attested income and the data source does not exceed \$50, the self-attestation is used to determine eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP eligibility, as applicable. Secondary data sources, such as TALX and SWICA, are checked when the reasonable compatibility standard is not met and when the self-attested income is above the Medicaid MAGI eligibility level, but the data source shows income below the Medicaid limit. The reasonable compatibility standard(s) are applied to each available data source until data sources are exhausted. When there is no data source available for a type of countable income reported by an individual, (i.e., self-employment, rental income, day labor, cash employment, etc.), paper documentation is requested. All available electronic data sources for earned and unearned income are checked for reasonable compatibility before contacting the individual for a reasonable explanation or requesting paper documents from the individual. See Additional Comments.

Eligibility Factor	Self-Attestation Accepted without Additional Verification (Y/N)	Self-Attestation Accepted with Post-Eligibility Verification (Y/N)	Electronic Data Source Used (Y/N)	Reasonable Compatibility Standard Used	Specify Reasonable Compatibility Standard for Income	Ask for a Reasonable Explanation from the Individual (Y/N)	Paper Documentation Required from the Individual (Y/N)	Comments
Residency	YES	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	If, through the course of checking electronic data sources for other factors of eligibility, an inconsistency occurs that affects eligibility, Mississippi will request a reasonable explanation or paper documentation.
Age (Date of Birth)	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	If, through the course of checking electronic data sources for other factors of eligibility, an inconsistency occurs that affects eligibility, Mississippi will request a reasonable explanation or paper documentation.
Social Security Number **	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	Mississippi uses the Federal Data Services Hub (the Hub) connection to the Social Security Administration (SSA) to verify an individual's social security number (SSN) . Statute, regulations and guidance for verification of SSN is followed. Mississippi will only ask for paper documentation to verify SSNs when required by statute, regulations and guidance.
Citizenship **	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	Mississippi uses the Hub connection to SSA to verify citizenship. Statute, regulations and guidance for verification of SSN is followed. Mississippi will only ask for paper documentation to verify citizenship when required by statute, regulations and guidance.
Immigration Status **	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	Mississippi uses all steps of the Department of Homeland Security's Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) system through the Hub's Verify Lawful Presence (VLP) service to verify immigration status.
Household Composition	YES	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	Household composition discrepancies, such as those identified through electronic data sources checked for other factors or when an applicant is already receiving benefits in another case, etc., are resolved if it affects eligibility. In such cases a reasonable explanation or paper documentation is requested, if necessary.

Eligibility Factor	Self-Attestation Accepted without Additional Verification (Y/N)	Self-Attestation Accepted with Post-Eligibility Verification (Y/N)	Electronic Data Source Used (Y/N)	Reasonable Compatibility Standard Used	Specify Reasonable Compatibility Standard for Income	Ask for a Reasonable Explanation from the Individual (Y/N)	Paper Documentation Required from the Individual (Y/N)	Comments
Pregnancy ***	YES	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	Paper documentation is required if available information such as claims data conflicts with the individual's self-attestation regarding pregnancy.
Caretaker Relative	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	YES	If relationship cannot be verified by an available electronic data source or if a discrepancy exists, paper documentation is required. Accept self-attestation of deprivation.
Medicare	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	YES	Requiring paper documentation to resolve discrepancies in Medicare entitlement may be necessary in rare instances.
Application for Other Benefits	YES	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	
Other: (Please describe any other eligibility factors in the space below)								
IV-D Child Support Agency	NO	YES	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	Failure to comply with IV-D requirements is handled post enrollment as notifications are received from the child support agency.
Title II 40 Work Quarters	NO	NO	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	Mississippi accepts self-attestation of receipt of means-tested federal benefits, other than Medicaid, when crediting qualifying quarters.
Third Party Liability	YES	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	

* States must check electronic data sources determined useful to verify income in accordance with 42 CFR 435.948 but can be done post-enrollment. If the information obtained from electronic data sources and the information provided by or on behalf of the individual are both above, at or below the applicable income standard, the State must determine the applicant eligible or ineligible for Medicaid/CHIP. (NOTE: this option is prepopulated for the state and is not an option that can be changed).

** States must follow statute, regulations, and guidance for verification of SSN, citizenship and immigration status including obtaining such information through the federal data services hub if available.

*** States must accept self-attestation of pregnancy unless they have information that is not reasonably compatible with such attestation.

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State: Mississippi

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Section B1. Use of Electronic Data Sources

Financial:

Electronic Data Source	Determined Useful (Y/N) ¹	Accuracy Considered (Y/N)	Timeliness Considered (Y/N)	Ability to Access Considered (Y/N)	Age of Data Considered (Y/N)	Comprehensive Considered (Y/N)	Other Criteria Used (Y/N) (Please Describe in Comments section)	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Data Source Used for Post-Enrollment - Frequency Used (e.g. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
1. Internal Revenue Service (IRS)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		Mississippi has decided not to pursue use of IRS data.
2. Social Security Administration (SSA) (SSI, Title II)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO		Mississippi uses the Hub's connection to the SSA for the receipt and amount of cash benefits through Title II.
3. State Wage Information Collection Agency (SWICA)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO		
4. State Unemployment Compensation	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO		
5. State Administered Supplementary Payment Program	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		Not applicable in Mississippi
6. State General Assistance Programs	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		Not applicable in Mississippi

Electronic Data Source	Determined Useful (Y/N) ¹	Accuracy Considered (Y/N)	Timeliness Considered (Y/N)	Ability to Access Considered (Y/N)	Age of Data Considered (Y/N)	Comprehensive Considered (Y/N)	Other Criteria Used (Y/N) (Please Describe in Comments section)	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Data Source Used for Post-Enrollment - Frequency Used (e.g. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
7. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		Mississippi anticipates using this source in the future.
8. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		Mississippi anticipates using this source in the future.
9. Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		
10. State Income Tax	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		
11. Commercial database: (Please describe any commercial databases in the space below)												

Electronic Data Source	Determined Useful (Y/N) ¹	Accuracy Considered (Y/N)	Timeliness Considered (Y/N)	Ability to Access Considered (Y/N)	Age of Data Considered (Y/N)	Comprehensive Considered (Y/N)	Other Criteria Used (Y/N) (Please Describe in Comments section)	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Data Source Used for Post-Enrollment - Frequency Used (e.g. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
Work Number - Equifax Verification	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO		Mississippi uses TALX as a data source through the federal data services Hub
12. Other: (Please describe any additional electronic data sources in the space below)												
1. The state marked any criterion YES if it was considered as a reason the data source was determined useful/not useful.												

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Last updated 10/13/2016

Section B2. Use of Electronic Data Sources

Non-Financial:

Electronic Data Source	To Be Used (Y/N)	Social Security Number	Citizenship	Immigration Status	Residency	Age/DOB	Pregnancy	Household Composition	Caretaker Relative	Medicare	Application for other Benefits	Other	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Used for Post-Enrollment Frequency Used (i.e. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
1. Social Security Administration (SSA)	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO		Mississippi also uses its Hub's connection to SSA to check other available information such as: - SSA death Indicator, and - incarceration status. The SSA connection through the Hub is used at renewal to verify information subject to change.
2. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) - SAVE	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	Other (specify in comments)	Mississippi uses all steps of SAVE through the Hub's VLP service to verify immigration status. A 90-day reasonable opportunity period is provided to allow the individual to provide additional documentation to support an attestation of being in an eligible immigration status. SAVE through the Hub's VLP service is used at renewal and post-enrollment to verify those immigration status subject to change.
3. Vital Statistics	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO		Mississippi utilizes Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) to verify vital statistics.

Electronic Data Source	To Be Used (Y/N)	Social Security Number	Citizenship	Immigration Status	Residency	Age/DOB	Pregnancy	Household Composition	Caretaker Relative	Medicare	Application for other Benefits	Other	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Used for Post-Enrollment Frequency Used (i.e. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
4. Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		
5. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		Mississippi anticipates using this source in the future.
6. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO		Mississippi anticipates using this source in the future.
7. Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE)	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	Other (specify in comments)	Mississippi uses OCSE data regarding child support compliance post enrollment if the data affects Medicaid/CHIP eligibility.
8. State General Assistance Programs	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		Not applicable in Mississippi

Electronic Data Source	To Be Used (Y/N)	Social Security Number	Citizenship	Immigration Status	Residency	Age/DOB	Pregnancy	Household Composition	Caretaker Relative	Medicare	Application for other Benefits	Other	Data Source Used at Application (Y/N)	Data Source Used at Renewal (Y/N)	Data Source Used Post-Enrollment (Y/N)	If Used for Post-Enrollment Frequency Used (i.e. monthly, quarterly)	Comments
9. Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		
10. State Income Tax	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		
11. Commercial database: <i>(Please describe any commercial databases in the space below)</i>																	
12. PARIS*	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	Quarterly	Interstate Benefit Match and VA benefits
13. Other: <i>(Please describe additional electronic data sources in the space provided below)</i>																	
* Under 42 CFR 435.945(d), all State Medicaid eligibility systems must conduct a match with PARIS for Interstate benefit information. If used for other purposes, please indicate in Section D.																	

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Section C. Additional Factors of Eligibility for Separate CHIP

Eligibility Factor	Self-Attestation Accepted without Additional Verification	Self-Attestation Accepted with Post-Enrollment Verification (Y/N)	Electronic Data Source Used (Y/N) <i>If Yes, please describe in comments</i>	Paper Documentation Required from the Individual (Y/N)	Non-Applicable (N/A)	Comments
1. Applicant does not have other coverage	YES	NO	NO	NO	Must be Applied	When other coverage is reported by other sources, such as providers, it is resolved. In such cases a reasonable explanation or paper documentation is requested, if necessary.
2. Applicant does not have access to affordable ESI					N/A	NA to MS CHIP
3. When child has had coverage (as applicable to states' waiting period)					N/A	
4. Access to public employee coverage					N/A	
5a. Waiting period exception #1 (describe):					N/A	
5b. Waiting period exception #2 (describe):					N/A	
5c. Waiting period exception #3 (describe):					N/A	
5d. Waiting period exception #4 (describe):					N/A	
5e. Waiting period exception #5 (describe):					N/A	
5f. Waiting period exception #6 (describe):					N/A	
5g. Waiting period exception #7 (describe):					N/A	
5h. Waiting period exception #8 (describe):					N/A	
5i. Waiting period exception #9 (describe):					N/A	
5j. Waiting period exception #10 (describe):					N/A	
6. Other eligibility factors or exceptions to eligibility factors: <i>(Please describe in the space provided below)</i>						

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State:		Mississippi
Last updated		10/13/2016
Section D. Additional Verification Questions		
	Question	Response
1	If paper documentation is required when a data source is not available or the information obtained from a data source is not reasonably compatible with the information provided by or on behalf of the individual, briefly describe how the state determined that establishing and using an electronic data source was not effective, considering such factors as cost and program integrity in accordance with 42 CFR 435.952(c):	The data sources not being used at this time are those that are either not applicable to the state, are not deemed useful or are sources we intend to use but have not been able to fully explore. The verification plan will be updated as additional data sources are utilized. The state accepts self-attestation for many factors of eligibility and only requests paper documentation if necessary when data sources are unable to resolve inconsistencies. State also uses multiple data sources as back up sources prior to requesting paper documentation from the individual.
2	Please describe how the state uses PARIS?	The state uses quarterly PARIS data matches to resolve duplicate Medicaid participation in another state and residency discrepancies.
3	Please indicate (YES) or (NO) if the State intends to request Secretarial approval to solely use alternative data sources for financial verification other than those listed in 42 CFR 435.948 (Numbers 1-8 in Section B-1).	NO

	Question	Response
	<p>If (YES), please submit a letter to CMS requesting such approval describing how the the state meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reduces administrative costs and burdens on both individuals and the State, 2) Maximizes accuracy and minimizes delay, 3) Meets the requirements related to confidentiality, disclosure, maintenance and use of information, and 4) Promotes coordination with other insurance affordability programs. 	
4	<p>Please indicate (YES) or (NO) if the State intends to request Secretarial approval to use a mechanism other than the federal data services hub for information that is available through the hub.</p>	NO
	<p>If (YES), please submit a letter to CMS requesting such approval describing how the the state meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reduces administrative costs and burdens on both individuals and the State, 2) Maximizes accuracy and minimizes delay, 3) Meets the requirements related to confidentiality, disclosure, maintenance and use of information, and 4) Promotes coordination with other insurance affordability programs. 	
5	<p>Describe any additional MAGI-based eligibility verification policies and procedures that have not been covered in this verification plan (optional):</p>	

Section A. Additional Comments

INCOME: Information from electronic data sources will be available at different times. At the point reasonable compatibility is established between the self-attested income and an electronic data source, Medicaid is assessed first and if ineligible for Medicaid, CHIP is assessed using the same data source and reasonable compatibility standard(s). The comparisons are made as information from data sources becomes available. Income information from the federal data services Hub is available first and serves as the primary data source. A hierarchy is applied. TALX data from the federal data services HUB is the primary source and is used for the reasonable compatibility comparison for earnings, when available and data information obtained from the State Wage Information Collection Agency is used secondarily. Data from the primary source is used to assess reasonable compatibility using the "at, below or above" criteria. When both the self-attested income and the data source are at or below the applicable income standard Medicaid is approved. When both are above the applicable income standard, Medicaid is denied. CHIP is approved when both are at or below the applicable CHIP income standard. Otherwise, the individual is screened for APTC/CSR through the Exchange.

When the self-attested income is below the applicable income standard and the electronic data source is above, the \$50 threshold is applied. If the difference between the attested income and the data source does not exceed \$50, the self-attestation is used to determine eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP eligibility, as applicable. The secondary data source is checked when the reasonable compatibility standard is not met and when the self-attested income is above the Medicaid MAGI eligibility level, but the data source shows income below the Medicaid limit. The reasonable compatibility standard(s) are applied to each available data source based on the stated hierarchy until data sources are exhausted.

If the secondary data source(s) fail to meet the reasonable compatibility standard(s) as stated above, the individual is contacted about the discrepancy and asked for a reasonable explanation before determining ineligibility for Medicaid and approving for CHIP or screening for APTC/CSR through the Exchange. If a reasonable explanation supports the self-attested income, the self-attestation is used to make the determination. If efforts to contact the individual for a reasonable explanation fail or the explanation is not reasonable, documents are requested since a discrepancy remains and no other data sources are available. In addition, in instances of a recent change in employers or new employment, where wages from the current employer attested to by the individual are not available through an electronic data source, paper documentation is requested. When there is no data source available for a type of countable income reported by an individual, (i.e., self-employment, rental income, day labor, cash employment, etc.), paper documentation is requested. All available electronic data sources for earned and unearned income are checked for reasonable compatibility before contacting the individual or requesting paper documents from the individual.

IMMIGRATION STATUS: The federal data services hub is used for Verify Lawful Presence (VLP) Steps 1, 2 and 3. A 90-day reasonable opportunity period is provided to allow program participation for applicants, who are otherwise-eligible, when there is a delayed electronic response or electronic verification is unsuccessful and documents must be submitted to Homeland Security. If the individual provides the needed information late in the 90-day period, benefits continue pending submission of the documents and a response. In addition, a 30-day extension is available when good-faith efforts are being made to obtain the needed documents.

Section B1. Additional Comments

Section B2. Additional Comments

Section C. Additional Comments