



Medical Assistance Program (MAP)

MEDICAID ALERT

December 27, 2022

Increase of Medicaid Medically Needy Income Level to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level and Related Medically Needy and MBI-WPD Resource Level Changes

This Alert is to inform Providers, Client Representatives, Community Based Organizations, Hospitals, Homecare Agencies, Nursing Homes, Advocates, Managed Care/Managed Long Term Care Plans, and agencies assisting Medicaid consumers of the New York State General Information System (GIS) message advising the district of a substantial increase to the Medically Needy Income level (MNIL) and impacts on the resource level for SSI-related consumers, and for the Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working People with Disabilities. These changes are pursuant to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022. The MNIL for January 2023 is based on the 138% FPL for 2022.

Medically Needy Income Level

Effective January 1, 2023, for SSI-related consumers the increase in the Medically Needy Income level to 138% FPL results in the income level for an individual increasing from \$934 in 2022 (\$1,367 for a couple) to \$1,563 (\$2,106 for couple). The SSI-related income disregards and deductions continue to apply.

Although this increase may reduce the number of Medicaid consumers who have excess income, the change does not eliminate the Excess Income (Spendedown) Program. Consumers with income above the MNIL in 2023 may spenddown to the new 2023 MNIL.

Medicaid eligibility for SSI-related consumers is determined by comparing income, after appropriate deductions, to the MNIL or the Medicaid Standard (and MBL Living Arrangement Chart as appropriate) and applying whichever income level is most beneficial. For individuals residing in Congregate Care living arrangements, the Congregate Care income levels, generally, are higher than the MNIL. However, for purposes of determining the most beneficial income level for a single individual residing in a Congregate Care Level 1 or Level 2 living arrangement, the increased MNIL for January 2023 is higher than the income levels for Congregate Care Level 1 and Level 2 for single individuals. Districts are reminded to apply the most beneficial income level.

In December 2022, New York State sent a letter to inform current Medicaid consumers who have been identified as having excess income of the increased MNIL, and to provide instructions for contacting the local district Medical Assistance Program/Homecare/Nursing Homes to request a recalculation of their income before their next renewal.

Medical Assistance/ Homecare Programs local District Mailing

In addition, the Medical Assistance Program/ Homecare/ Nursing Home division are also sending a one-time mailing with the attached MAP-3190, *2023 Budget Review Request* and MAP-3190a, *2023 Budget Review Request Cover Letter*. Consumers can self-attest to their income for 2023. Documentation is not required. The completed form must be returned in the business reply envelope that was sent with the Budget Review Request forms. Consumer who misplace the business return envelope can submit the completed form as follows:

- **Medicaid Surplus cases** can fax the completed form to **917 639-0645** or return it to any community Medicaid Office
- **HCSP/MLTC/CASA consumers:** Mail to HCSP 785 Atlantic Avenue, 7th Floor, Bklyn, 11238 or drop off at window 16 at 785 Atlantic Avenue
- **Nursing Home cases** can fax the completed form to **917 639-0736**.
 - **Note:** the changes to the income and resource levels do not impact Chronic Care Budgeting.

For current Medicaid consumers who do not contact the LDSS for a recalculation of their income in response to their December 2022 one-time letter, the Medical Assistance Program will redetermine the consumer eligibility based on the new MNIL at the next consumer contact or at renewal, whichever comes first.

Medically Needy Resource Level

As a result of the change to the MNIL, the resource level for an SSI-related individual will increase from \$16,800 (\$24,600 for a couple) in 2022 to \$28,133 for an individual and \$37,902 for a couple effective January 1, 2023

Medicaid Buy-In program for Working People with Disabilities Resource levels

The resources levels for the Medicaid Buy-In Program for Working People with Disabilities will also increase effective January 2023. The MBI-WPD resource levels, currently at a fixed level of \$20,000 for an individual and \$30,000 for a couple, will increase to the same amount as the Medically Needy resource levels effective January 1, 2023. The income level for MBI-WPD remains at 250% FPL.

Effective Date

The new Medically Needy income and resource levels are effective January 1, 2023 and apply to new applications and requests for an increase in coverage received on or after January 1, 2023.

PLEASE SHARE THIS ALERT WITH ALL APPROPRIATE STAFF

Return Address



MAP-3190a (E) 12/02/2022

CASE NUMBER: _____

If you have any questions call: HRA Medicaid Helpline
at 888-692-6116.

2023 Budget Review Request (Cover Letter)

You are receiving this letter because you or someone in your household has excess income under the current Medicaid rules. Beginning in January 2023, a new Medicaid income rule may allow you or someone in your household to keep more of your monthly income. You may have already received a similar letter announcing these changes – the only difference is this letter contains a mail-back form and return envelope to make it even easier for you to request a review of your Medicaid income budget.

You can request to have your income reviewed under this new Medicaid income rule before your next Medicaid renewal by completing the enclosed Budget Review Request form and returning it in the enclosed Postage Paid Business Reply Envelope. You will receive a notice in the mail after your request is reviewed.

Do you have a medical or mental health condition or disability? Does this condition make it hard for you to understand this notice or to do what this notice is asking? Does this condition make it hard for you to get other services at HRA? **We can help you.** Call us at **888-692-6116**. You can also ask for help when you visit an HRA office. You have a right to ask for this kind of help under the law.

KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS

Return Address



CASE NUMBER: _____

If you have any questions call: HRA Medicaid Helpline at 888-692-6116.

2023 Budget Review Request Form

Current Mailing Address on File

Address _____

If your address has changed, provide your updated information below. **Only complete this section if address is different from the address above.**

Address _____

You must answer both questions and sign and date the form if you would like your budget to be re-evaluated.

Current Gross Income (before taxes and deductions)

- Income may include: wages, salaries, commissions, tips, overtime, self-employment, Social security benefits, disability benefits, unemployment benefits, veterans benefits, workers compensation, child support payments/alimony, pensions, annuities, trust income, rental income, money from relatives or friends to meet living expenses, Temporary cash assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), student grants or loans.

Name	Income Type	Income Amount	Frequency

Total allowable deductions such as current health insurance premiums, Medicare premiums etc.

Name	Deduction	Deduction Amount	Frequency

I attest that the above information is accurate.

Client Signature _____ Date _____

Do you have a medical or mental health condition or disability? Does this condition make it hard for you to understand this notice or to do what this notice is asking? Does this condition make it hard for you to get other services at HRA? We can help you. Call us at 888-692-6116. You can also ask for help when you visit an HRA office. You have a right to ask for this kind of help under the law.