Elimination of the Resources Test for all Non-SSI Related Medicaid Consumers

Effective January 1, 2010, the resource test is being eliminated for all non-SSI-Related individuals at initial application and renewal. Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2009, Sections 58-59d dictates the elimination of this test for all Medicaid applicants and recipients except those who are 65 years of age or older, certified blind or certified disabled. The resource test is also being eliminated for Family Health Plus consumers.

Beginning with applications/renewals processed for eligibility effective dates of January 1, 2010 and later, single adults/childless couples, parents and caretakers of children under 21 will no longer have their resources considered when Medicaid/Family Health Plus eligibility is determined. Resource information/documentation will continue to be required from all members of “mixed households” (households with an applying SSI-related member), but the resources will only be applied to the budget(s) prepared for the SSI-Related consumer.

For SSI-Related individuals (aged 65 year old and older, certified disabled, certified blind), there continues to be a resource test. This includes individuals on the Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities (MBI-WPD). In addition, eligibility for COBRA Continuation Coverage continues to require a resource test, regardless of the individual’s category, because the SSI-Related budgeting methodology is used to determine COBRA Continuation Coverage eligibility.

A Medicaid consumer, who is entitled to more than two categories, such as SSI-related or ADC-related, will have their eligibility determined using the most advantageous category. For example a disabled individual who is the parent or care taker of a child under the age of 21 could be considered under either the ADC-related or SSI-related categories depending on which is more advantageous. The ADC-related determination would not include the individual’s resources.

PLEASE SHARE THIS ALERT WITH ALL APPROPRIATE STAFF

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Medical Assistance Program • Office of Eligibility Information Services • 330 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001
Robert Doar, Administrator/Commissioner • Mary Harper, Executive Deputy Commissioner • Maria Ortiz-Quezada, Director of EIS

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