STATE OF DELAWARE



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION OF MEDICAID & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLANNING & POLICY UNIT

MEMORANDUM

REPLY TO

ATTN. OF: Administrative Notice DMMA A-14-2021

TO: All DMMA and DSS Staff

DATE: April 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Verification Factors of Eligibility for Non Long-Term Care Medicaid and

the Delaware Healthy Children Program

***Administrative Notice DMMA A-10-2015 originally issued on March 30, 2015, is being reissued as a result of common errors found during the most recent MEQC and PERM Audits.

BACKGROUND

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was signed into law on March 23, 2010. Under the ACA, health reform will make health care more affordable, guarantee choices when purchasing health insurance, expand Medicaid coverage to millions of low-income Americans and make numerous improvements to both Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

DISCUSSION

During the most recent MEQC and PERM Audits, there were common errors found related to the disposition of applications. Verification is the process of documenting statements made by an applicant or recipient about factors of eligibility. Verification must be obtained from an independent source.

Prior to the ACA, some factors of eligibility required verification. Certain factors of eligibility did not require verification. Self-attestation by the applicant or recipient was acceptable for certain factors of eligibility.

With the passing of the ACA, most factors of eligibility do not require verification. Self attestation by the applicant or recipient is acceptable. Certain factors of eligibility will be verified post-enrollment, post-renewal, and after an interim change.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

<u>I. Self-attestation accepted with no verification</u>

- Residency
- Date of birth
- Household composition
- Household relationships
- Application for other benefits
- Pregnancy (unless other available information, such as a medical claim, is not reasonably compatible with such attestation)

Verification of these factors of eligibility is not required. The verified by value in ASSIST Worker Web for these factors of eligibility is "self-declared".

II. Self-attestation with verification occurring post-enrollment, post-renewal, and after an interim change

- Income
- Medicare

An eligibility determination is completed using self-attestation. The verified by value in ASSIST Worker Web for these factors of eligibility is "self-attestation".

Verification of these factors of eligibility will be obtained electronically using the Federal Data Services Hub (FDSH) and other electronic data sources. The electronic data sources are described at DSSM 14800 *Verifications of Factors of Eligibility*.

When verification cannot be obtained via the FDSH or the other electronic data sources, the agency will request verification from the applicant or recipient. The applicant or recipient will be given 30 days from the date of the request to respond. If the verification requested is not provided, eligibility will be terminated.

III. Self-attestation not accepted

Self-attestation will not be accepted and must be verified via the FDSH for the following factors of eligibility:

- Citizenship and identity
- Immigration status
- Social Security number (SSN).

If citizenship and identity and immigration status cannot be verified via the FDSH, the individual will be provided with a 90-day reasonable opportunity period to submit other documentation and may be found eligible during that time period. The reasonable

opportunity period will be extended beyond 90 days if the individual is making a good faith effort to obtain the documentation.

Verification of SSN will be in accordance with DSSM 14105 Social Security Number and DSSM 14105.1 Exception to Furnish a Social Security Number (SSN).

ACTION REQUIRED

Staff needs to review and apply the policy in the following sections to ensure compliance with Federal and State regulations:

DSSM 14105 Social Security Number

DSSM <u>14105.1</u> Exception to Furnish a Social Security Number (SSN)

DSSM 14800 Verifications of Factors of Eligibility

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

Colleen Cunningham Colleen.Cunningham@delaware.gov (302) 255-9609

April 14, 2021 DATE

Kimberly Xavier, Chief Planning & Policy

Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance