

DMA Policy Updates

*Summaries of the policy updates are listed below. Review the specific policy issuance for full details and changes.

DMA Administrative Letters

DMA Administrative Letter 05-15, Social Security and VA Cost-of-Living Adjustment dated December 9, 2015

The Social Security Act provides for an automatic increase when there is an increase in inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). **There was no increase in inflation.** As a result, monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will not increase in 2016.

- No SSA/SSI/VA Cost of living increase this year
- Most income limits such as spousal protection did not change, however the few that did such as LIS Resource limits are listed in letter
- Updated changes to Medicare premium/deductible amounts

DMA Administrative Letter 06-15, Unconverted Medicaid Cases dated December 17, 2015

Recertifications that have not been fully converted in NCFast must be completed.

- 8,761 cases as of date of this letter had not been converted in NC FAST
- These cases need to be converted using appropriate budgeting methodology
- Deadline for completion given as January 31, 2016 (still cases showing on current report)

DMA Change Notices

Change Notice For Manual No. 01-16, Alien Requirements dated February 1, 2016

Policy revisions are included to clarify or to correct previously published policy.

- Clearly defines lawfully present and lawfully residing (state residency is a separate requirement and not determined by alien status)
- Updated alien chart
- Alien status determines if coverage is emergency or full Medicaid, still must meet other criteria
- Alliant ASO determines emergency services since September 1, 2015
- Alien policy now in IEM 15100

Dear County Director Letters

Dear County Director Letter, Patient Monthly Liability Corrections dated November 20, 2015

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the process for submitting requests for “Patient Monthly Liability” (PML) amounts that need correction due to various reasons.

- The DMA-5016 must be sent at the time the case is authorized (activated), as well as when a change decision is completed that impacts the PML (for all LTC and PACE cases).
- Refer to MA-2270.V.C.10. for the reasons that require corrections or updates to PML's.
- The DMA-5164 must indicate the amount the applicant/beneficiary was notified to pay with a short explanation of why the change is necessary.
- All DMA-5164's must include a copy of the DMA-5016 that was issued.
- Any questions, please contact the DMA Call Center at 1-888-245-0179

Dear County Director Letter, Minimum Essential Coverage Reporting (MEC) 1095B dated December 14, 2015

Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) is the type of health coverage an individual needs to meet the individual responsibility requirement under the Affordable Care Act (this includes Medicaid/NC Health Choice for Children (NCHC)).

- Every employer/organization that provides MEC to an individual during a tax year must send the recipient a 1095B and submit the information to the IRS
- DMA via NC FAST is responsible for mailing the 1095Bs and they were to be mailed by March 31, 2016
- MEC does not include limited coverage groups such as Family Planning, MQB, and cases in deductible status.
- If beneficiaries have questions about their 1095-B forms, they are instructed to contact DMA Call Center at 1-888-245-0179.
- Caseworkers have the ability to reprint the 1095-B form in NC FAST if the beneficiary has not received it by January 31st, 2016.
- Counties will receive returned 1095Bs from the Post Office, the county must attempt to locate a valid address and re-mail the form

Dear County Director Letter, Application Time Standards Chart for 2016 dated January 15, 2016

The Application Time Standards Chart for 2016 was attached to the DCDL. This Chart is for caseworkers who work with Medicaid (including Work First and Special Assistance), to determine the necessary application time standards rather than calculating each date manually.

- The Chart includes the calculated 13th, 45th, 60th, and 90th calendar day deadline for each day of the year in 2016.
- The Chart also includes the 6th month deadline for each day.
- This Chart does not consider weekends and holidays for any of the calculated days.
- In order to determine the adjusted due date of an application, it is necessary to compare the due date indicated on the Chart to the calendar and your county holiday schedule. If the chart's calculated due date falls on the weekend or county holiday, the adjusted due date is the next workday.

Dear County Director Letter, Foster Care Medical Homes/Medicaid ID Cards dated January 31, 2016

Explains benefits and encourages assigning Foster Children a CNCC provider.

- Enrollment enables case management support from CCNC care managers
- Enables continuity of Medicaid claims and case management
- Can help identify out of county placements

Dear County Director Letter, Minimum Essential Coverage Reporting Update dated February 5, 2016

Issued as a follow up to DCDL dated December 14, 2015 to include updated information on the IRS form 1095-B issued to beneficiaries. This letter also included Q&A's.

- DMA must send a 1095-B to the IRS as well as every beneficiary that received Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) under the Medicaid/NC Health Choice programs in 2015 which is the beneficiary's proof that they received MEC. Family Planning, MQB and deductible cases are not considered MEC as they are limited coverage programs.
- Families began receiving the 1095-B in February 2016 with all forms to be received by March 31, 2016.
- For additional information, the beneficiary can visit the DHHS website at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/> or the IRS website www.irs.gov.
- After March 31st, caseworkers will have the ability to reprint the 1095-B in NC FAST if the beneficiary states they did not receive a 1095-B.

- Follow normal procedures for undeliverable 1095-Bs returned to DSS.

Dear County Director Letter, Trust and Annuity Reviews dated February 16, 2016

DMA has contracted with Health Management Systems (HMS) to review trusts and annuities for Medicaid eligibility and estate recovery purposes.

- Will Review:
 - Special Needs Trusts
 - Pooled Trusts
 - Third Party Trusts
 - Annuities of any kind (currently paying out or expected to pay out in the near future)
- HMS goal is a 30 day turnaround
- In order for 30 day turnaround timeframe to be met, counties must send for review as quickly as possible with all relevant documents included.
- Email to: Richard.gambrell@hms.com or Fax to Richard's attention at: 1-844-586-2657. Call with questions to him directly at 919-424-2805.

Dear County Director Letter, Auto-Extensions of MAGI Medicaid Cases dated February 25, 2016

The purpose of the letter is to inform counties on how to submit a request for F&C Medicaid auto-extension.

- Counties must submit a request to Carolyn McClanahan
- The request can be sent by email or fax
- Please review the letter to see what must be included in the request

Dear County Director Letter, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Provider Enrollment dated March 2, 2016

This letter is to notify County Directors of Social Services (DSS) and transportation coordinators of upcoming changes to the administration of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) in NC, particularly provider enrollment requirements.

- Any vendor who provides NEMT services must enroll as a Medicaid Provider through NC TRACKS
- They will no longer be reimbursed by the County DSS; however, they are required to contract with the County DSS. The vendors will bill for transportation services through NC TRACKS.
- The County DSS will continue to be responsible for scheduling and arranging transportation for eligible Medicaid beneficiaries.
- DMA is developing a prior approval process to verify NEMT provider claims based on trip information entered by the county into NC FAST.
- The planned implementation date for NEMT vendors to begin submitting claims in NC TRACKS is August 1, 2016. NEMT vendors must begin enrolling prior to that date.
- CRSA, the fiscal agent, will provide training on the enrollment requirements, including webinars, online training, or instructor-led training.
- Additional information will be forthcoming as we develop this process. If you have any questions, you may contact DMA Policy Coordinator, Ena Lightbourne, at 919-855-4004 or via email at ena.lightbourne@dhhs.nc.gov