

**FW: MAWD**

Milot, Doreen <dml@iu29.org>

Mon, Apr 12, 2021 at 9:34 AM

To: "McCloskey, Amanda" <mcccla@svbluedevils.org>, Andrea Zehring <azehring@pgasd.com>, "Arnold, Debra" <arnod@iu29.org>, "Barnhart, Caroline" <barnc@stcenters.org>, Emily Williams <ewilliams@battlinminers.com>, Jenn Grochowski <jgrochowski@mabears.net>, Jenna Troutman <jtroutman@gillinghamcharterschool.org>, "Cecco, Jennifer" <jcecco@wvschools.net>, "Steiff, Jennifer" <jsteiff@northschuykill.net>, "Stock, Gerald" <ges@iu29.org>, Jessica Paisley <jpaisley@tamaquasd.org>, "Hlavaty, Jill" <jhlavaty@pgasd.com>, Joellyse Hartz <jmhartz@tvdawgs.net>, John Matulevich <jmatulevich@tamaquasd.org>, John Paul <JPaul@wvschools.net>, "John Paul (home)" <Jsjjj@comcast.net>, Joy Header <jrh@tvdawgs.net>, "Fetterolf, Kacie" <fetterolf@saintclairsd.org>, "Weston, Kelli" <kmweston@bmsd.org>, "Kendyle Mills (millsk1@cliu.org)" <millsk1@cliu.org>, "Jones, Kimberly" <jonek@iu29.org>, Louise Winkler <lwinkler@pottsville.k12.pa.us>, Malarie Munden <mmunden@pgasd.com>, Megan Lengle <lenglem@shasd.org>, "Breen, Melissa" <mbreen@gillinghamcharterschool.org>, "Mikita, Melissa" <kayem@svbluedevils.org>, Michele Ann Jones <jones@saintclairsd.org>, "Zinkus, Michelle" <zinkm@svbluedevils.org>, Siobhan Walsh <slwalsh@bmsd.org>, "Wood, Thomas" <ljw@iu29.org>

**From:** Rodriguez, Heather <herodrigue@pa.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, April 9, 2021 3:35 PM

**To:** Milot, Doreen <dml@iu29.org>

**Subject:** MAWD

This is for individuals when they become adults and they are working and still need that medical insurance. The key is they have to be working (Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities)

I will attach the forms also needed for this category to include on top of anything from the Doctor showing a diagnosis. They may also get this category of medical just having a need for Health Sustaining Medications where basically they could die or end up hospitalized without the medication.

## 316.1 General Policy for MAWD and MAWD/HCBS

Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) Premiums Must Not Be Increased During the COVID-19 Emergency Beginning January 1, 2020, **PMW20084316** (July 30, 2020)

Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) Reinstatement for Individuals Who Self-Attest to Paying Premium During the COVID-19 Emergency, **PMW19919316** (May 5, 2020)

Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) Premium Payments during the COVID-19 Emergency **PMW19831316** (March 26, 2020)

Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) helps individuals with disabilities work while receiving MA coverage. Each individual receiving MAWD must pay a monthly premium to the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-170)

Act 2001-77 of June 26, 2001 (P.L. 755)

MAWD gives benefits to individuals who meet the eligibility rules in the following groups:

- Worker with a disability (**category PW**). Individuals in this group must:
  - Be at least age 16 but under age 65.
  - Be employed and getting paid.
  - Be **disabled** according to the Social Security Administration (SSA) or the DHS rules (except for earnings).

**20 CFR Part 411**

- Have countable monthly **income**, after **allowable** deductions, below 250% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIGs).
- Have countable resources of \$10,000 or less.

**NOTE:** Any Individual who is age 16 through 64, is disabled (or presumptively disabled), employed, and over the income and/or resource limits for other MA categories, including Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) must be reviewed for MAWD. The individual does not have to apply specifically for MAWD to be considered for the program.

- For an individual who appears to be eligible for MAWD and who did not apply specifically for MAWD or was not given MAWD information in the COMPASS application, the CAO will contact the individual, explain the program and premium requirement, and obtain their verbal consent prior to authorizing MAWD and narrate that consent was received.
  - For an individual who did apply for MAWD or was already given MAWD information in the COMPASS application, the individual is already aware of the program and its premium requirement. The CAO does not need to contact the individual prior to authorizing MAWD.
  - When in doubt as to whether the individual is aware of the MAWD program, the CAO will contact the individual prior to authorizing MAWD.
- Worker with a medically improved disability (category PI). Individuals in this group must:
    - Meet the age, income and resource requirements of the worker with a disability group.
    - Work at least 40 hours a month and earn at least minimum wage.
    - Have a medically improved disability that no longer meets the SSA's disability rules.

**NOTE:** The individual must continue to have a severe impairment, as determined by medical professionals.

- Have received ongoing MA coverage in the workers with a disability group in the past and have had benefits discontinued because of medical improvement.

**NOTE:** Begin eligibility the month after coverage ends under the worker with a disability group. There cannot be a break in coverage.

## Appendix A: MAWD Income and Resource Limits; Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) Limits

### Income Limits—Effective January 13, 2021

250% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines				
Family Size	Monthly Limits		Annual Limit	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
1	\$2,684.00	\$2,659.00	\$31,900.00	\$31,900.00
2	\$3,630.00	\$3,592.00	\$43,100.00	\$43,100.00

### Resource Limit

- \$10,000
- The resource limit is equal to or less than \$10,000, regardless of family size.
- The applicant's resources are always included.
- The resources of the applicant's spouse are included

**NOTE:** Do not exclude resources for families with children under 21 in the household.

Social Security Disability Thresholds:		2021	2020
Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)	Non-Blind	\$1,310/mo.	\$1,260/mo.
	Blind	\$2,190/mo.	\$2,110/mo.

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## FW: Medical Assistance categories for disabled Individuals and some general policy

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To: "McCloskey, Amanda" <mcccla@svbluedevils.org>, Andrea Zehring <azehring@pgasd.com>, "Arnold, Debra" <amod@iu29.org>, "Barnhart, Caroline" <barnc@stcenters.org>, Emily Williams <ewilliams@battlinminers.com>, Jenn Grochowski <jgrochowski@mabears.net>, Jenna Troutman <jtroutman@gillinghamcharterschool.org>, "Cecco, Jennifer" <jcecco@wvschools.net>, "Steiff, Jennifer" <jsteiff@northschuykill.net>, "Stock, Gerald" <ges@iu29.org>, Jessica Paisley <jpaisley@tamaquasd.org>, "Hlavaty, Jill" <jhlavaty@pgasd.com>, Joellyse Hartz <jmhartz@tvdawgs.net>, John Matulevich <jmatulevich@tamaquasd.org>, John Paul <JPaul@wvschools.net>, "John Paul (home)" <Jsijj@comcast.net>, Joy Header <jrh@tvdawgs.net>, "Fetterolf, Kacie" <fetterolf@saintclairsd.org>, "Weston, Kelli" <kmweston@bmsd.org>, "Kendyle Mills (millsk1@cliu.org)" <millsk1@cliu.org>, "Jones, Kimberly" <jonek@iu29.org>, Louise Winkler <lwinkler@pottsville.k12.pa.us>, Malanie Munden <mmunden@pgasd.com>, Megan Lingle <lenglem@shasd.org>, "Breen, Melissa" <mbreen@gillinghamcharterschool.org>, "Mikita, Melissa" <kayem@svbluedevils.org>, Michele Ann Jones <jones@saintclairsd.org>, "Zinkus, Michelle" <zinkm@svbluedevils.org>, Siobhan Walsh <slwalsh@bmsd.org>, "Wood, Thomas" <tjw@iu29.org>

From: Rodriguez, Heather <herodrigue@pa.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 3:29 PM

To: Milot, Doreen <dml@iu29.org>

Subject: Medical Assistance categories for disabled Individuals and some general policy

The first one is going to be your PH 95 category and this handbook on manuals and policies is accessible to the public: This is for children who are basically over income for SSI but still have a disability. Although the parents will be required to provide their income the income is pretty much excluded for this category.

*As I stated at the meeting. Most caseworkers will not review for any other type of medical category unless it's specified at time of application and even then it gets missed. It is best to always appeal the notice to ensure the right category is being reviewed for medical eligibility. I hope this helps.*

PMB18517315 -Removal of minimum age requirement for participation in the Office of Developmental Program's (ODP) Person/Family Directed Support (68) and Consolidated (77) Waivers- May 31, 2017

The Children with Special Needs **Category** provides full Medical Assistance (MA) benefits to children up to age 18 who meet disability requirements and do not receive **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act.

The Children with Special Needs category is authorized only after eligibility for all other MA categories has been explored.

### 315.13 Presumptive Eligibility

A child should be authorized presumptively when:

- The CAO receives documentation of a disability from a physician or psychologist. The documentation must detail the child's medical condition.
- The child with special needs has not been determined disabled by SSA or MRT. A **Disability Advocacy Program (DAP)** referral should be completed for MRT review.

Acceptable disability verification for presumptive eligibility includes, but is not limited to:

- An Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
- An Early Intervention evaluation.

- A Mental Health facility discharge report.

### 315.14 Verification

The CAO will verify the following:

- **Citizenship.**
- **Identity.**
- **Income:** Parents (natural and adoptive) and child must report and verify all earned and unearned income.
- **Birth date.**
- **Disability or a pending application for a disability determination by SSA or by DHS's MRT.**

Explain the use of the Authorization for Information (**PA 4**) when collateral contacts are necessary. Complete the form only if the collateral contact requires written consent from the individual for the verification to be released. (**Section 378.4, Collateral Contacts**)

## 315.2 Determining Disability

Acceptable documentation of disability must detail the child's medical condition. Medical **verification** of a disability which meets the SSA disability criteria may be confirmed by the individual or individual's physician.

*A child is disabled if he or she has a physical or mental condition or conditions that:*

- *Can be medically proven, and*
- *Results in marked and severe functional limitations that last or are expected to last at least 12 months or expected to result in death.*

The evidence must document the severity of the impairment during the time the child is disabled. The medical evidence must contain the following:

- A history of the impairment.
- Reports of clinical and laboratory findings which support the diagnosis and show the physical or mental changes which have occurred.
- The factual data which is the basis for the diagnosis and prognosis.
- A medical assessment describing the child's ability to do activities such as sitting, standing, moving about, lifting, carrying, handling objects, hearing, and speaking.
- If the child has a mental impairment, the assessment should describe the ability to reason or make occupational, personal, or social adjustments.

**Children with Special Needs must meet SSA's disability standards. Verification of the disability is provided by SSA or DHS's Medical Review Team (MRT). Supplemental Handbook Chapter 820 (DAP).**

Acceptable disability verification includes but is not limited to:

- A Social Security award letter which lists the type of benefit being received
- A collateral contact with SSA.
- A disability begin date indicated on IEVS Exchange 3 (BENDEX) or Exchange 6 (SDX).
- An **SSI** award letter and termination letter indicating the reason for termination. The reason must be non-medically related.
- A copy of disability certification from the State MRT. The certification appears on an MRT Transmittal (**PA 749**).

If Children with Special Needs are found *ineligible* for SSI benefits due to **income**, the child or children will be referred to DAP for a determination of permanent and total disability by the MRT.

**NOTE:** The individual must apply for SSI benefits if the individual is potentially eligible based on income.

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**2 attachments**

 **\_PH95\_Priority\_Diagnosis\_List.pdf**  
42K

 **PA 1960 child certification.pdf**  
148K

## FW: Final one under Disability category which is a PH 00

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## 319.2 Determining Disability

*Disability Advocacy Program (DAP) Changes, OPS180302 (Published March 13, 2018)*

An individual who is under age 65, including a child under age 21, is considered disabled for Healthy Horizons if the individual meets any of the following conditions: 55 Pa. Code § 140.221(2)

- He or she receives Social Security Disability benefits.
- He or she used to receive Social Security or SSI disability benefits and was determined to be disabled by the SSA or the Medical Review Team (MRT), and the disability certification is still valid.

**NOTE:** If the individual had been receiving SSI or disability RSDI and benefits were stopped for a reason other than disability status, the disability condition is still valid if the medical condition has not changed. If the medical condition has changed, the MRT must review the disability condition.

- He or she is certified as permanently and totally disabled under RSDI/SSI criteria or by the MRT. (See Chapter 305, Category.)

**NOTE:** The MRT will not consider the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) limit of the SSA process in determining disability.

**NOTE:** The applicant or recipient's doctor should provide medical proof of a disability that falls under the SSA disability criteria.

55 Pa. Code § 140.311(b)(2)(ii)

- He or she has (a) been referred to the Disability Advocacy Program (DAP) for a determination of permanent and total disability by the MRT or has (b) applied for Social Security Disability benefits as referred by the DAP. The CAO must authorize presumptive eligibility until the decision is made. (See Chapter 305, Category), and Supplemental Handbook, Chapter 820, Disability Advocacy Program, for referral information.

An individual should be encouraged to sign a PA 731, DAP Referral Form, but a signature is not required. By signing the PA 731, the individual is indicating intent to cooperate with both the CAO and the SSA. If an individual does not sign the PA 731 as part of the DAP referral, he or she must verify application for Social Security Disability benefits before the CAO authorizes MA.

**NOTE:** The CAO may authorize presumptive eligibility during the retroactive period if medical documentation confirms that the disability existed.

**NOTE:** If an individual receives unemployment compensation, the CAO will not take it as proof that he or she is employable.

The CAO must authorize Healthy Horizons categorically needy eligibility pending a decision on disability by the MRT or the SSA if the referral to SSA was made by a DAP advocate. The CAO will encourage all individuals who might be considered disabled applicants or recipients to use the services provided by the DAP advocate.

**NOTE:** Individuals must apply for Social Security benefits, including SSI. If an individual does not want to apply for Social Security benefits, he or she may choose to apply for Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) instead of Healthy Horizons benefits. An individual is not required to apply for Social Security benefits to be eligible for MAWD. He or she must meet the work requirements and pay monthly premiums.

**NOTE:** If it looks like a child will be denied SSI because of parental income or resources, the CAO must refer the child to the DAP advocate for an MRT.

Blindness alone does not meet the disability requirements. If a blind individual meets the Healthy Horizon categorically needy disability requirements, he or she may choose to receive either State Blind Pension (SBP) or Healthy Horizons. (See Supplemental Handbook, Chapter 700, State Blind Pension.)

If an SBP recipient is eligible for Medicare and meets the income and resource requirements of the Healthy Horizons cost-sharing program, the CAO must assign the appropriate program status code to the SBP category for the individual to enroll in Medicare Buy-In. (See Chapter 305, Category.)

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### 2 attachments



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97K



**PA 1663.pdf**  
273K