



John R. Kasich, Governor
John B. McCarthy, Director

MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY MANUAL TRANSMITTAL LETTER NO. 126

To: All Medicaid Eligibility Manual Holders

From: John B. McCarthy, Director

Subject: Medicaid: Medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities (MBIWD)

Effective August 1, 2016, Ohio transitioned from being a 209(b) state to a 1634 state for Medicaid eligibility. The transition impacted how Medicaid eligibility is determined for aged, blind, or disabled individuals. Most of the eligibility requirements are now based on criteria established by the Social Security Administration for supplemental security income (SSI).

As a 209(b) State, Ohio used eligibility criterion more restrictive than the SSI program for Medicaid determinations and provided a mechanism for individuals to reduce their income to the income eligibility level through the use of Medicaid spenddown.

As a 1634 State, Ohio will now use SSA's determination of an individual's eligibility for SSI benefits as a determination for Medicaid coverage. Ohio has also chosen the option to determine eligibility for Medicaid coverage for individuals who do not receive SSI benefits but have a disability determination and meet the income and resource criterion for SSI.

As a result of these changes, the Ohio Department of Medicaid reviewed all existing eligibility rules on aged, blind, or disabled Medicaid. Some rules were significantly rewritten, while others were simply updated.

This MEMTL contains one amended rule from Chapter 5160:1-5 of the Administrative Code.

The effective date of the rule is October 21, 2016.

Chapter 5160:1-5 Medicaid for Other Covered Programs

5160:1-5-03 Medicaid: Medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities

This rule was amended to remove language on spenddown and continuing disability reviews, redefined medical insurance premiums, changed rule references, and updated language for clarity.

The information is available on the Internet and may be accessed at www.medicaid.ohio.gov.