



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Maureen M. Corcoran, Director

Medicaid Eligibility Procedure Letter (MEPL) No. 156

Effective Date: March 1, 2021

Issue Date: February 9, 2021

OAC Rules: 5160:1-3-02.1, 5160:1-4-02, 5160:1-4-03, 5160:1-4-04, 5160:1-4-05, and 5160:1-5-03

To: All Medicaid Eligibility Manual Holders

From: Maureen M. Corcoran, Director

Subject: Medicaid: 2021 Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines

Reason for Change: On January 13, 2021, the United States Department of Health and Human Services updated the federal poverty level (FPL) income guidelines. In accordance with Section 1905(p)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act, the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is deducted from an individual's countable income for the Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP) until the annual federal poverty guidelines take effect.

New Policy: The FPL income guidelines for MAGI-Based Medicaid, Medicaid Buy-in for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD), and the Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP) will be changed effective March 1, 2021.

Action Required: Beginning March 1, 2021, the County Department of Job and Family Services (CDJFS) must determine initial and ongoing eligibility for MAGI-Based Medicaid, MBIWD, and MPAP using the following FPL income guidelines:

MAGI-Based Medicaid

2021 Monthly Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines for MAGI Based Programs						
Family Size	Individuals Age 19 or 20 44%	Parent or Caretaker Relative 90%	MAGI Adults 133%	Coverage for Children 156%*	Pregnant Women 200%	Coverage for Children 206%**
1	\$473	\$966	\$1,428	\$1,675	\$2,147	\$2,212
2	\$639	\$1,307	\$1,931	\$2,265	\$2,904	\$2,991
3	\$806	\$1,647	\$2,434	\$2,855	\$3,660	\$3,770
4	\$972	\$1,988	\$2,938	\$3,445	\$4,417	\$4,550
5	\$1,139	\$2,328	\$3,441	\$4,036	\$5,174	\$5,329
6	\$1,305	\$2,669	\$3,944	\$4,626	\$5,930	\$6,108

*This standard is used for children **with** creditable insurance.

This standard is used for children **without creditable insurance.

Medicaid Buy-in for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD)

Beginning March 1, 2021, the CDJFS must determine initial and ongoing eligibility for the MBIWD individual using the updated 250% FPL income guideline below:

Individual Income Guideline 250%	\$2,684
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Beginning March 1, 2021, the CDJFS must determine MBIWD premiums using the updated 150% and 450% FPL guidelines below:

2021 Monthly FPL Income Guidelines for Premium Calculation		
Family Size	MBIWD 150%	MBIWD 450%
1	\$1,610	\$4,830
2	\$2,178	\$6,533
3	\$2,745	\$8,235
4	\$3,313	\$9,938
5	\$3,880	\$11,640
6	\$4,448	\$13,343

Medicare Premium Assistance Programs (MPAP)

Beginning March 1, 2021, the CDJFS must determine eligibility for MPAP using the FPL guidelines below:

2021 Monthly Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines for MPAP				
Family Size	Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) 100%	Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) 120%	Qualified Individuals-1 (QI-1) 135%	Qualified Disabled Working Individuals (QDWI) 200%
1	\$1,074	\$1,288	\$1,449	\$2,147
2	\$1,452	\$1,742	\$1,960	\$2,904
3	\$1,830	\$2,196	\$2,471	\$3,660
4	\$2,209	\$2,650	\$2,982	\$4,417
5	\$2,587	\$3,104	\$3,492	\$5,174
6	\$2,965	\$3,558	\$4,003	\$5,930

Ohio Benefits: A mass change will run after adverse action in January but prior to, or on, the last day of adverse action for February, so that MPAP benefits can be impacted as of March 1, 2021. A journal entry will be automatically entered when the Mass Change EDBC Batch was successful. A Notice of Action (NOA) will be generated advising of any changes. An alert or report will be provided for program blocks that are excluded from the Mass Change EDBC Batch. The assigned worker will need to review these cases to determine if a manual EDBC is needed depending on the fallout reason, issue a manual NOA if there is an eligibility change, and document with a journal entry.

Medicaid Eligibility Procedure Letter No. 149 is obsolete upon the effective date of this MEPL.

The information is also available on the Ohio Department of Medicaid website and may be accessed at:

RESOURCES > Publications > ODM Guidance > Medicaid Policy > Medicaid Eligibility Procedure Letter (MEPL)

<http://medicaid.ohio.gov/RESOURCES/Publications/ODMGuidance.aspx#161542-medicaid-policy>