



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
**Division of Medical Assistance**

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Craig L. Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

October 12, 2011

Re: LIS Part D and PDP Reassignments

Dear County Director of Social Services:

The purpose of this letter is to notify counties about the beneficiary reassignment for certain Medicaid/Medicare recipients into a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) and to provide PDP Open Enrollment information.

In order to be eligible for the Low Income Subsidy (LIS), an individual must have resources equal to or less than \$12,640 for a single person or \$25,260 for a couple and income less than 150% of the federal poverty level for the family size. The resource amounts will change January 2012.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is sending letters notifying beneficiaries if they are not automatically eligible for LIS in 2012, if their copayment levels will change, or if their Part D plan is no longer available. Details concerning these mailings are found in the CMS LIS Guide located at:

[www.cms.hhs.gov/LimitedIncomeandResources/Downloads/2011Mailings.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/LimitedIncomeandResources/Downloads/2011Mailings.pdf)

There will be additional plans available for 2012. Assistance with choosing a PDP is available through SHIP at 1-800-443-9354, 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at the Medicare website at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). The base monthly premium for 2012 is \$33.00.

Open Enrollment for Part D Prescription Drug Plans is October 15, 2011 through December 7, 2011. Encourage recipients to complete the enrollment prior to November 23, 2011, to allow adequate processing time. Beneficiaries only need to take action to disenroll or change plans. For those who choose to enroll in a new plan it is important that they **do not** disenroll from the current plan and then try to enroll in a new plan for 2012. The beneficiary only needs to enroll in the new plan. That action will cause termination of the current plan effective December 31, 2011.

Counties must continue taking LIS applications as required in MA-2310.



October 12, 2011

Page 2

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If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

Craig L Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

CLG/jlb

(This material was researched and written by John Benske, Program Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.)