



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

Roy Cooper
Governor

Dempsey E. Benton
Interim Secretary

Dave Richard
Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance

January 18, 2017

Re: Minimum Essential Coverage Reporting (MEC), 1095-B

Dear County Director of Social Services:

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), Medicare, job-based coverage, policies bought through the Health Insurance Marketplace and certain other coverage. If individuals have minimum essential coverage, they do not have to pay the fee for being uninsured.

The 1095-B serves as proof that the individual has received MEC in 2016. The form will be sent by mail to the beneficiary and will indicate which months the individual received MEC in the tax year of 2016. It does not include limited coverage groups such as Family Planning, MQB and cases in deductible status.

Families will begin receiving the IRS Form 1095-B in the month of January 2017. Active, related household members will be listed on the same 1095-B. Beneficiaries will receive more than one form if there are more than six MEC individuals in the household. Active, unrelated individuals in the same household will receive a separate form.

If beneficiaries have any questions about the 1095-B form, the 1095-B form instructs them to contact the DMA call center at 1-888-245-0179. However, due to the volume of forms to be mailed, the county department of social services may experience an increase in calls from beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries may also visit the IRS website irs.gov for additional information regarding the IRS Form 1095-B.

www.ncdhhs.gov

Tel 919-855-4100 • Fax 919-733-6608

Location: 1985 Umstead Drive • Kirby Building • Raleigh, NC 27603

Mailing Address: 2501 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2501

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As a reminder, caseworkers will have the ability to reprint the **2016** 1095-B in NCFAST if the beneficiary has not received it after *March 31, 2017*. Counties may receive undeliverable mail with an enclosed 1095-B due to an incorrect address. The county caseworker must attempt to locate the beneficiary, update the new address and/or mail the 1095-B form. Follow procedures for “unable to locate” to identify a new address and before taking any negative action on an active case.

If you have any questions, please contact the Operational Support Team at ost.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Dave Richard