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**State of Wisconsin
Governor Jim Doyle**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators**

**FROM: Amy Mendel-Clemens, Section Chief
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Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability**

BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO		
No: 10-45		
DATE: 06/07/2010		
FS <input type="checkbox"/>	MA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BC+ <input type="checkbox"/>
SC <input type="checkbox"/>	CTS <input type="checkbox"/>	FSET <input type="checkbox"/>
	BC+ CORE <input type="checkbox"/>	
CC <input type="checkbox"/>	W-2 <input type="checkbox"/>	EA <input type="checkbox"/>
CF <input type="checkbox"/>	JAL <input type="checkbox"/>	JC <input type="checkbox"/>
RAP <input type="checkbox"/>	WIA <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> *
EP		

SUBJECT: Request for Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)

CROSS REFERENCE: MEH 32; Operations Memos 07-32, 08-49 and 08-24

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to clarify the circumstances under which an applicant for Health Care benefits must be tested for MSP eligibility (QMB, SLMB, SLMB+ and QDWI). MSPs are also routinely referred to as Medicare Premium Assistance (MPA) programs.

BACKGROUND:

The "Medicare Premium Assistance (QMB/SLMB) Request" field in CWW is currently defaulted to "No." Unless the request field is changed to "Y" by the worker, CWW will not test the applicant for MSP eligibility. The result is that some individuals who would otherwise qualify for the MSP benefit do not receive it solely because they do not specifically "request" it.

Clarification:

Until changes can be made to automate the MPA request in CWW, change the MPA request field to “Y” if the applicant for Health Care benefits is receiving Medicare, even if a specific request for help with their Medicare costs has not been made. The MPA request for a Medicare recipient should only be changed to an “N” if the person has stated they do not want to be tested for MPA.

Also whenever the worker receives any of the following informational messages or alerts about Medicare information, the worker should change the MPA request to “Y”, and run eligibility to test for MPA:

- **CARES Alert**
The "383 - FYI MEDICARE INFO UPDATED" alert is generated to workers whenever the SSA data exchange updated information on the Medicare page. This should prompt the worker to request MPA.
- **Prior SSI Page**
When the Prior SSI page is completed for individuals meeting the 503, DAC, or Widow/Widowers criteria, an informational message, “AE371: Individual should request QMB because he or she is potentially eligible.” will display to prompt the worker to request MPA.
- **Medicare Page**
When the Medicare page is completed for an individual, the informational message, “AE371: Individual should request QMB because he or she is potentially eligible”, will display to prompt the worker to request MPA.

See Ops Memo 08-24 for instructions regarding the manual determination of SLMB+ eligibility.

CARES:

There are no associated CARES changes.

CONTACTS:

BEPS CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, BC+ Core – BadgerCare Plus Core, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

DHS/DHCAA/BEPS/SR