

# SLMB+

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Income Maintenance Advisory Committee (IMAC) Meeting



# Topics

- Project Overview
- Policy Clarification
- System Changes Overview
- Conversion
- Impact Analysis
- Release Readiness Activities

# Project Overview

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# Background

- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary Plus (SLMB+) eligibility is currently determined manually.
  - Time-intensive.
  - Can be difficult to apply change reports to SLMB+ eligibility since it is not in CWW.
  - Can be difficult to identify impacts related to eligibility in other programs.

# Project Vision

- Automate the processing for SLMB+ within CARES to eliminate the need for manual steps in the determination and notification of the program.

# Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Provide more accurate and timely SLMB+ determinations.
- Decrease workload on IM agencies.
- Automate all SLMB+ notices in order to ensure applicants and members are receiving appropriate and timely notification.
- Automate the renewal process for SLMB+.

# Intended Outcomes and Goals

- Ensure the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) policies are incorporated correctly in CWW.
- Enhance CWW to better accommodate the MSP eligibility determination process.

# Policy Clarification

- An applicant or member cannot be enrolled in SLMB+ while also being enrolled in Medicaid.
- This requirement had been understood to only apply to full-benefit Medicaid programs.
- Federal law also applies this requirement to the Family Planning Only Services (FPOS) and Tuberculosis Only Related Services (TB Medicaid) programs.



# System Changes Overview

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# Changing MPA to MSP

- The term Medicare Premium Assistance (or MPA) will be changed to Medicare Savings Programs (or MSP) throughout ACCESS, CWW, and on notices.
- The change had previously been applied to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) policy handbooks, the DHS website, and other publications.

# SLMB+ Changes in CWW

- Mostly the same as QMB and SLMB.
- The MSP Request page (formerly the MPA Request page) will include SLMB+ as one of the programs to test for eligibility.
- CWW will handle backdating for SLMB and SLMB+.

# SLMB+ Changes in CWW

- New question asking if the person is enrolled in an interChange-only program that isn't allowed with SLMB+.
- The MSP budget information will have its own budget page.

# SLMB+ Changes in CWW

- Included as part of the existing SLMB assistance group, SLB – Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary.
  - Eligibility will be tested for SLMB+ if income is too high for SLMB.
- New informational reason code, “745 – Eligibility is determined under SLMB+.”
- The MSP Budget page and the Confirmation page will also indicate that eligibility is being run for SLMB+.

# Other Changes in CWW

- If the person is eligible for QMB, CWW will appropriately fail eligibility until the month after the eligibility determination is made.
- A “Reason for Not Requesting” field is being added to the MSP Request page and the FPOS Request page.

# Conversion

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# One-Time Mailing

- Estimate 200 – 300 members statewide are incorrectly enrolled in both SLMB+ and another health care program.
- In late June, an informational letter will be sent to these members stating:
  - SLMB+ will end at the end of August
  - These members will then be responsible for their Medicare Part B premiums.
  - These members can call their agency if they have questions or if they would rather keep SLMB+.



# One-Time Mailing

- The incorrectly paid Medicare Part B premiums should not be treated as overpayments.
- This letter is not a notice of decision.
- Workers will still have to process these member's SLMB+ eligibility in CARES during the conversion in August.

# Conversion

- DHS estimates that there are 3,700 – 4,000 SLMB+ members statewide.
- Monthly Manual Renewal Report
  - The August 2017 report will list cases with SLMB+ members who have a renewal date of September 30.
  - The September 2017 report will no longer include SLMB+ cases.

# Conversion

- One-Time Conversion Report
  - On August 7, DHS will send agencies a one-time conversion report for SLMB+ members with a renewal date of October 31 or later.
  - All SLMB+ members should already be known to CARES since the members had to be determined ineligible for QMB and SLMB.
  - Workers will need to run eligibility in CWW for each member in order to get the SLMB+ eligibility into CWW.

# Conversion

- One-Time Conversion Report
  - Agencies will have until August 17 to process the 200 – 300 members who received the one-time informational mailing in July.
  - Agencies will have until September 8 to process the rest of the SLMB+ members.
- More details on the conversion will be covered in the Ops Memo and at future TAPP and EBD/LTC Process Support meetings.

# Impact Analysis

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# Impact Analysis

- The majority of existing SLMB+ members should not experience much impact because their SLMB+ eligibility will continue as is.
- Determinations in CWW should decrease the amount of time workers will spend to determine accurate SLMB+ eligibility

# Release Readiness Activities

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# Upcoming Events and Dates

- **June 29:** One-time mailing sent to members
- **July 10:** Presentation at the EBD/LTC Process Support meeting
- **July 10:** Operations memo published this week
- **July 28:** Presentation at TAPP
- **August 1:** IM Worker Training updated
- **August 5:** System changes implemented
- **August 7:** Conversion report sent to IM agencies
  - Due dates are **August 17** and **September 8**



# Questions

- If you have any questions after this meeting, please send them to the CARES Call Center.