



Eligibility Operations Memo 12-01
January 1, 2012

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Amy Andrade, Director, Member and Provider Services

RE: **Change to the Asset Limit for MassHealth Senior Buy-In and MassHealth Buy-In Applicants and Members**

Introduction

The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008 included significant adjustments for Medicare beneficiaries.

One provision of MIPPA requires the asset limit for all Medicare Savings Programs to be adjusted annually to match the asset test for full subsidy for low-income individuals who complete the Social Security Administration "Application for Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs."

Change to Asset Limit

Effective January 1, 2012, the asset limit for MassHealth Senior Buy-In (QMB), MassHealth Buy-In for Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMBs), and MassHealth Buy-In for Qualifying Individuals (QIs) will be increased to the following amounts:

- individual – \$6,940; and
- couple – \$10,410.

MassHealth regulations at 130 CMR 519.010 and 519.011 will be revised to update these figures.

System Impact

Effective January 1, 2012, MA21 and PACES will be updated to use the new asset limits for MassHealth Senior Buy-In and MassHealth Buy-In eligibility determinations.

Questions

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.
