

## **Financial Eligibility for the Elderly & Disabled and HIV/AIDS Waiver Programs**

**Satellite Conference and Live Webcast  
Friday, January 18, 2008  
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. (Central Time)**

**Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health  
Video Communications and Distance Learning Division**

## **Faculty**

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## **Objectives**

- Participants will gain an understanding of the financial eligibility criteria associated with the E/D and HIV/AIDS waiver programs, including Medicaid certifying agencies and coverage groups.
- Participants will be knowledgeable about the guiding policies related to income and resource determinations associated with 300% eligibility for the E/D and HIV/AIDS waiver programs.

## **Objectives**

- Participants will be able to evaluate a client's potential eligibility for approval of 300% eligibility.
- Participants will be able to identify the steps involved to process a 300% financial eligibility application.
- Participants will be able to assist a waiver applicant to fill out the 300% eligibility application and identify verifying documents needed to support the application.

## **Three Certifying Agencies**

**Social Security Administration**

**Alabama Department of  
Human Resources**

**Alabama Medicaid Agency**

## **Social Security Administration**

**Certifies aged, blind or disabled individuals for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).**

**New income limits effective 1/1/08:**

**\$657 Individual**

**\$976 Couple**

### **Social Security Administration**

All ages from this coverage group can qualify financially for the E&D Waiver.

Those age 21 and over can qualify for the HIV/AIDS Waiver.

### **Department Human Resources**

**Optional State Supplementation Cases:**  
This coverage group can qualify for both waivers.

**Adoption Assistance:**  
This coverage group can only qualify for the E&D Waiver.

### **Alabama Medicaid Agency**

300% of the Federal Benefit Rate (FBR):

All ages can qualify for the E&D Waiver. Those age 21 and over can qualify for the HIV/AIDS Waiver.

### **Alabama Medicaid Agency**

**SSI Related Groups:**  
All ages can qualify for the E&D Waiver. Those over age 21 can qualify for the HIV/AIDS Waiver.

*Continuous Medicaid (Pickle)*  
*Widow/Widower*  
*Disabled Adult Child (DAC)*

### **Alabama Medicaid Agency**

**Medicaid for Low Income Families (MLIF):**

Those over age 21 can qualify for the HIV/AIDS Waiver.

### **General Eligibility Requirements**

The applicant must be a resident of Alabama.

The applicant must be a citizen or qualified immigrant.

The applicant must meet certain medical criteria.

An individual must apply for all income to which they are entitled.

### **General Eligibility Requirements**

**Must cooperate in providing third party insurance information.**

**Certain individuals under age 65 must have a disability determination made.**

**Social Security Account Number is required.**

**Must meet certain income and resource tests.**

### **Income Information**

**Effective October 1, 2007, the income limit for the Elderly and Disabled Waiver was increased to 300% of the FBR.**

**As of January 1, 2008, the new income limit for both waivers is \$1,911.00. (FBR is \$637.00 x 300% = \$1,911.00).**

**Income can be earned or unearned or a combination of the two.**

### **Income Information**

**Income is counted in the month in which it is received.**

**Income held into the following month becomes a resource.**

**Deeming of income from an ineligible spouse or an ineligible parent is disregarded for those applying under the 300% standard.**

### **Examples of Unearned Income**

**Social Security**

**Black Lung**

**Federal Civil Service**

**Railroad Retirement**

**Veterans Benefits (Less Aid and Attendant and Continuing Medical Expenses )**

**Private Pensions**

**Cash Contributions**

### **Resource Information**

**The resource limit for individuals applying based on 300% of the FBR is \$2,000.**

**Resources are considered as of the first day of the month.**

### **Resource Information**

**An item cannot be considered as income and a resource in the same month.**

**Deeming of resources from an ineligible spouse or an ineligible parent is disregarded for those applying under the 300% standard.**

### **Examples of Resources**

Cash  
Cash surrender value of certain life insurance  
Checking and savings accounts  
Certificates of deposit

### **Examples of Resources**

Promissory notes  
Real property  
Stocks and bonds  
Mineral and timber rights  
Mutual funds

### **Excluded Resources**

Household goods and personal effects.  
Cash value of life insurance with combined face value less than \$5,000.  
Burial fund or prepaid burial contract of up to \$5,000.  
Prepaid burial space items.  
One automobile per household.

### **Excluded Resources**

Certain real property:  
Homestead  
Property where a bona fide effort to sell is being made  
Property valued less than \$6,000 where it is income producing  
Life estate interest

### **Transfer of Assets Affecting Eligibility**

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) changed the way that Medicaid is required to explore transfer of assets.

The “look-back-date” will eventually be 60 months prior to the application for any transfers occurring on or after February 8, 2006.

The “look-back-date” is 36 months prior to the application for transfers made prior to February 8, 2006.

### **Transfer of Assets Affecting Eligibility**

The penalty period for transfer of assets under DRA is determined by dividing the cumulative “uncompensated value” of the transferred assets by the average cost of nursing home care, currently for 2008, \$4,400.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

\$85,000 divided by \$4,400 = 20 months.

### **Tips on Submitting an Application**

Application must be completed and signed in ink.

Make sure the applicant's name, address, social number, etc. are reported correctly.

Spouse information should be included.

Suggested items to submit with application:

Copy of Medicare and Social Security cards.

### **Tips on Submitting an Application**

Verification of gross earned and unearned income, including claim and/or identification numbers.

Copies of last three bank statements.

Verification of CDs, IRAs, savings bonds, stocks, mutual funds, etc.

Copies of deeds for property other than homestead.

### **Tips on Submitting an Application**

Copies of trusts, mortgages, promissory notes.

Copies of all insurance policies.

Copies of pre-paid or prearranged burial plans/contracts.

Copies of power of attorney or guardianship papers.

### **Tips on Submitting an Application**

Citizenship and identity information for those not eligible for Medicare or Social Security Disability Insurance.

Keep a copy of the application.

Develop a good working relationship with your Medicaid District Office

### **Upcoming Programs**

How Can Use of the Performance Standards Drive National, State and Local Public Health Policy?  
Wednesday, January 23, 2008  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (Central Time)

Political Leadership, Health Policies and Health Disparities in Developed and Developing Nations  
Wednesday, January 30, 2008  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (Central Time)

Emergency Management Assistance Compact  
Thursday, January 31, 2008  
12:00 - 1:30 p.m. (Central Time)

For complete list of upcoming programs visit: [www.adph.org/alphtn](http://www.adph.org/alphtn)