DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO: 14-03, ADDENDUM 4, AID PROGRAM/CATEGORY AND CLASS CHANGES TO MQB-E

DATE: March 3, 2003

SUBJECT: Aid Program/Category and Class Changes To MQB-E

DISTRIBUTION: County Directors of Social Services

Medicaid Eligibility Staff

I. BACKGROUND

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 established a mandatory eligibility group of low income Medicare beneficiaries. The funding for this group, the Qualifying Individuals (QI1/MQB-E), was based on a fixed allocation at 100% Federal Financial Participation (ffp) through December 2002.

A series of continuing resolutions have been issued to extend the QI1 program at its present funding level. The latest one continues the funding through April 2003. Congress may take action to continue funding the QI1 program past April 2003. There will be subsequent administrative letters regarding what will happen next with the MQB-E program.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has notified DMA that eligible individuals should transfer into MQB-E. For those recipients whose COLA income now makes them ineligible for MQB-B, transfer these persons to MQB-E. Individuals you recently placed on the MQB-E waiting list who were active in another aid program/category or Medicaid classification may be transferred to MQB-E and removed from the waiting list. Individuals who are terminated or could not apply will remain on the waiting list at this time. At a later date we will provide instructions on what to do with these individuals.

II. AID PROGRAM/CATEGORY TRANSFERS AND MEDICAID CLASSIFICATION CHANGES TO MQB-E

Beginning immediately, you can transfer cases to MQB-E or change the Medicaid Classification to MQB-E for any individual who is eligible. Enter the certification period through date as 04/30/2003. Instructions for Aid Program/ Category transfers are found in EIS 3451 - AID PROGRAM/CATEGORY TRANSFERS TO MEDICAID PROGRAMS (TRANSFERRING FROM M-AA, M-AB, M-AD, OR M-SB TO M-QB). Instructions for Medicaid Classification changes are found in EIS 3101 - Changes To Medicaid Cases (Changes in Medicaid Classification).

DMA ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. 14-03, ADDENDUM 4, Aid Program/Category and Class Changes to MQB-E Page 2

REMINDER: As stated in DMA Administrative Letter 14-03, Addendum 1 dated December 18, 2002, do not take MQB-E applications, but continue to keep the waiting list for individuals who are potential applicants in case the MQB-E program is continued. Do not complete redeterminations on any MQB-E cases.

If you have questions, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Nina M. Yeager Director

[This material was researched and prepared by Mary Spivey, EIS Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit.]