

# CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL NO. 17-12, VETERAN BENEFIT VERIFICATION

**DATE: 11/01/12**

**Manual: Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid**

**Change No: 17-12**

**To: County Directors of Social Services**

**Effective: 11/01/12**

**Make the following change(s)**

## **I. BACKGROUND**

### **A. Veteran's Benefits**

ABD Change Notice 11-11 announced that the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and the North Carolina Division of Veteran's Administration (NCDVA) entered into an agreement whereby DVA will assist Medicaid applicants and beneficiaries who may be entitled to veteran's benefits in obtaining all of the benefits to which they are entitled. As part of that agreement, DVA also agreed to verify veteran's benefits for the county departments of social services.

NCDVA will continue to assist Medicaid applicants and beneficiaries who may be entitled to veteran's benefits in obtaining benefits. However, NCDVA did not anticipate the volume of verification requests that it would receive and will not be able to continue performing verifications. Verification of veteran's benefits will have to be obtained from the Veteran's Administration.

### **B. Student Earned Income Exclusion**

The inadvertent omission of the 2012 Student Earned Income Exclusion COLA is corrected.

### **C. Long Term Care Budgeting**

Policy clarifications regarding RSDI income and financial instruments payable to the institutionalized spouse and CUSP.

## **II. CONTENT OF CHANGE**

### **MA-2250, Income**

1. I.A.3. Clarifies that when a financial instrument indicates that payment is due to both the institutionalized spouse and the CUSP, it is countable income to both.

2. VI.B.31. Adds Spina Bifida benefits to uncountable income.
3. VIII.B.6. States to count the gross amount of the RSDI benefit before any deductions for Medicare premiums, garnishment or seizure have been made in Step II of long term care budgeting.
4. VIII.B.7. Adds “when payment has been reduced due to a previous overpayment” to the instruction to count the RSDI amount actually received in step two of LTC
5. VIII.D.3. Provides instructions for requesting VA verification of veteran’s benefits.
6. VIII.D.4. Clarifies how VA benefits derived from Unreimbursed Medical Expenses (UME) are budgeted.
7. IX.D.3. Updates student earned income exclusion with 2012 COLA.
8. DMA-5027, Veterans Benefit Verification Form is revised to allow for the differences in countable benefits in ABD and F&C Medicaid.

### **III. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

Apply this policy to Medicaid Applications taken on or after November 1, 2012 as well as to those presently in progress.

### **IV. MAINTENANCE OF MANUAL**

**Remove:** MA-2250, Income, pages 1-2, 5-6, 23-24, 51-103.

**Insert:** [MA-2250](#), Income, pages 1-2, 5-6, 23-24, 51-101.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Michael Watson,  
Director

(This material was researched and written by William Appel, Policy Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit)