

County Medi-Cal Services Program Guide (CMSPG) Letter #26

May 21, 2013

Subject **2013/2014 COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES (CMS) MAINTENANCE NEED LEVELS (MNLs) AND CMS HARDSHIP MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE EXPENSES**

Effective Date July 01, 2013

Reference County Policy

Purpose To provide staff with the new:

- CMS and CMS Hardship MNLs; and
- CMS Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses amounts.

Background Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the CMS and CMS Hardship MNLs, and CMS Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses are adjusted annually effective July 1st.

Highlighted Change **CMS and CMS Hardship MNLs**

Effective July 01, 2013, the new MNLs are as follows:

CMS Category	MNL	
	1 person	2 people
Standard	\$1,581	\$2,133
Hardship	\$3,353	\$4,526

CMS Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses

Effective July 01, 2013, the new allowable amount for expenses are as follows:

Non-Discretionary Expense	Maximum Allowable Expense for	
	1 person	2 people
Housing/Utilities	\$839	\$1,132
Transportation	\$449	\$605

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Change
(continued)

Non-Discretionary Expense	Maximum Allowable Expense for	
	1 person	2 people
Food	\$244	\$330
Miscellaneous (includes clothing, personal)	\$109	\$145
Allowable Out-of-Pocket Health Care Expense	\$172	\$232

Required Action

Effective July 01, 2013, workers must use the new CMS MNLs, and CMS Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses amounts when determining eligibility for CMS.

CMS IT System Impact (AuthMed)

AuthMed has been updated to include the new MNLs and Hardship Maximum Expense amounts.

Forms Impact

The CMS-38H (Attachment A) has been revised to reflect the 2013/2014 CMS Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses amounts.

Imaging Impact

The CMS IT System (AuthMed) will calculate all budget entries; however, in situations where a manual budget is required, the worker shall image the completed CMS-38H into AuthMed.

ACCESS Impact

When information is requested, ACCESS agents will provide callers with the new CMS MNLs and Hardship Maximum Expense amounts.

Quality Control (QC) Impact

Effective with the July 2013 review month, QC will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

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Summary of Changes

The table below shows the changes made to the CMSPG.

Article	Changes
Article 6, Section 2, Appendix A	Updated the MNLs.
Article 13, Section 3, Appendix A	Updated the Hardship Maximum Allowable Expenses amounts.

Approval for Release

Robert Wilson, Dep. Director 5-24-13

JP

Patient Name		Budget Month/Year	
Member ID#		Date	
Worker #		Worker Name	

CMS Budget Worksheet

1.	Number of people in family unit _____	Complete these columns to determine income eligibility	
2.	Name of adult family members with income		
	A.	A	B
	B.	Earned Income	
3.	Gross Earnings/Earned In-kind (before deductions)	\$	\$
4.	State Disability Insurance (SDI)		
5.	Subtotal earned (add lines 3 and 4)	=	=
6a.	Work Expenses (\$90 for each person with earned income)	-90.00	-90.00
6b.	ABD Deduction (\$65 + ½ of the remainder for each person with earned income)	-65.00 + \$	-65.00 + \$
7.	Total Earned Income (subtract line 6 from line 5)	\$	\$
		Unearned Income	
8.	In-Kind Income	\$	\$
9.	Other Unearned Income (UIB, VA, SSA, etc.)		
10.	Total Unearned Income (Add lines 8 and 9)		
11.	Total Income (add lines 7 and 10)	\$	\$
12.	Health Insurance Premium <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	-	-
13.	Verified Court Ordered Child Support/Alimony		
14.	Total Monthly Net Non-Exempt Income (subtract 12 and 13 from 11)	\$	\$
15.	Total CFBU Monthly Net Non-Exempt Income (add individual rounded totals for columns 14 A & B)		\$
16.	CMS MNL for CFBU Size		\$
17.	Subtract line 15 from line 16. If 15 is greater than 16, the applicant is over income. Offer Applicant CMS Hardship Application.		\$

If applicant is being denied for the sole reason of excess income, and is otherwise eligible, calculate CMS Hardship Evaluation budget.

CMS Hardship Evaluation

STEP 1	Determine if the Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income is at or below 350% FPL. Refer to Article A, Section 5, Appendix C for CMS Maintenance Need Levels (MNL)			
	Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income			
	350% FPL			
	If Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income is at or less than 350%, go to Step 2.			
STEP 2	Determine Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses (using chart below)			
	(A) Applicant's Actual Non- Discretionary Expenses	(B) Maximum Allowable Expense (EFF 7/1/13)		Applicant's Allowable Expenses (Lesser of A or B)
		For 1	For 2	
	Housing/Utilities	\$839	\$1,132	
	Transportation	\$449	\$605	
	Food	\$244	\$330	
	Miscellaneous (includes clothing, personal)	\$109	\$145	
	Allowable Out-of -Pocket Health Care Expense Allowance	\$172	\$232	
	Tax expenses (state and federal taxes, SDI, Social Security, and Medicare) include taxes paid whether shown as a deduction on earning statements or paid out of pocket.	Actual		
	Court Ordered Payments (e.g., current child support and alimony)	Actual		
	Payments on Prior Medical Debt	Actual		
	Applicant's Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses Enter amount in item B below.			
STEP 3	Calculation of Total Monthly Discretionary Income			
	A. Total Gross Monthly Income			
	- B. Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses	-		
	= C. Total Monthly Available Income	=		
	Subtract Line B (applicant's Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses) from Line A (applicant's Total Gross Monthly Income). The remaining amount (Line C) shall be considered the applicant's Total Monthly Available Income.			
STEP 4	Determine Applicant's Monthly Share of Cost The Applicant's Total Monthly Available Income (Line C above) is the Applicant's Monthly Share of Cost.			

Appendix 6.02A CMS Maintenance Need Levels (MNLs) Income Limit Chart and Inkind Income Values

1. Income Limit

MNL CHART – EFF 07/01/13		
CFBU SIZE	CMS 165% FPL	CMS HARDSHIP 350% FPL
1	\$1,581	\$3,353
2	\$2,133	\$4,526
3	\$2,686	\$5,698
4	\$3,239	\$6,871
5	\$3,792	\$8,043
6	\$4,344	\$9,216
7	\$4,897	\$10,388
8	\$5,450	\$11,561
9	\$6,003	\$12,733
10	\$6,555	\$13,906
Add for additional members	\$553	\$1,173

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Appendix 13.03A County Medical Services (CMS) Hardship Evaluation Process

The following steps are to be taken when evaluating a CMS Hardship application:

Step	Action				
1	<p>Determine if the Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income is at or below 350% FPL. Refer to Appendix 06.02A for CMS MNLs.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 1528 1401 1654"> <tr> <td>Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>350% FPL</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>If Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income is at or less than 350%, go to Step 2.</p>	Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income		350% FPL	
Applicant's monthly net non-exempt income					
350% FPL					
2	Using chart below, determine Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses:				

	Non-Discretionary Expenses	(A) Applicant's Actual Non-Discretionary Expenses	(B) Maximum Allowable Expense (EFF- 7/1/13)		Applicant's Allowable Expenses (Lesser of A or B)
			For 1	For 2	
	Housing/Utilities		\$839	\$1,132	
	Transportation		\$449	\$605	
	Food		\$244	\$330	
	Miscellaneous (includes clothing, personal)		\$109	\$145	
	Allowable Out-of - Pocket Health Care Expense Allowance		\$172	\$232	
	Tax expenses (state and federal taxes, SDI, Social Security, and Medicare) include taxes paid whether shown as a deduction on earning statements or paid out of pocket.		Actual		
	Court Ordered Payments (e.g., current child support and alimony)		Actual		
	Payments on Prior Medical Debt		Actual		
	Applicant's Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses				
	Enter amount in item B below.				
3	Calculation of Total Monthly Discretionary Income				
	A. Total Gross Monthly Income				
	- B. Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses				-
	= C. Total Monthly Available Income				=
<p>Subtract Line B (applicant's Total Monthly Allowable Non-Discretionary Expenses) from Line A (applicant's Total Gross Monthly Income).</p> <p>The remaining amount (Line C) shall be considered the applicant's Total Monthly Available Income.</p>					
4	Determine Applicant's Monthly Share of Cost.				
	The Applicant's Total Monthly Available Income (Line C above) is the Applicant's Monthly Share of Cost.				