



## **Policy Directive: 2024-06-01**

### **Title: MSP/QMB Review Updates for SSI Recipients**

**Date: June 24, 2024**

**From: Erin Kelley, Senior Manager**

**Program(s) impacted: E&D Programs**

This Policy Directive provides updated guidance on review processing policy and instructions for SSI recipients that receive the companion MSP/QMB program coverage. This policy is effective with the June KEES Release, June 22, 2024. The MKEESM manual will be updated with the next scheduled revision.

Prior to the release of this directive, staff were provided policy guidance with the implementation of [PM2018-12-02](#) Review Processing Instructions. This directive supersedes that policy.

#### **A. Background**

While SSI programs are not subject to a formal review, any companion MSP program must complete the formal review process. Although the SSI program type is set as a 'No review', the MSP program is not. Historically, SSI with MSP/QMB cases had the MSP program go through the super-passive or passive review process. However, some cases would not go through the review batch process, resulting in a pre-populated review form being sent to the consumer. This review form required the consumer to complete the formal review process and attest to all current income and resources, along with other non-financial eligibility criteria. Failure to return the form required the agency to complete an 'Administrative Review' to determine if ongoing MSP eligibility was appropriate.

#### **B. New Policy – MSP/QMB Review Requirements for SSI Recipients**

Effective, June 22, 2024, the MSP/QMB review requirements for SSI recipients are being modified to eliminate the requirement to review the SSI recipient's income and resources. Instead, the agency will only need to verify that the individual is still an SSI recipient and is entitled to Medicare Part A to renew their MSP/QMB coverage.

It is important to note that this policy applies to individuals with an active SSI disability determination through Social Security as described in MKEESM 2630, including individuals eligible with a 1619 status (per MKEESM 2634). It is not applicable to individuals presumptively enrolled for the SI Medical Program (as described in MKEESM 2663.3).

Additionally, this policy is not applicable to SSI recipients with MSP/LMB as the income limit for the LMB program exceeds the SSI income limit, indicating that the individual's case has an income record that needs to be verified for accuracy and determine if continued SI

Medical enrollment is appropriate. This policy is only applicable to individuals who are otherwise eligible for MSP/QMB coverage (i.e., have verified income within the QMB limit, meet residency requirements, etc.).

The KEES system has been updated to incorporate this change in policy and process. It is important to note that while the KEES system is an integrated system, KEES does not currently interface with EATSS to verify SSI recipient status or Medicare entitlement during the Review Batch. As such, the agency will proceed with processing these MSP reviews with the information known to KEES at the time the review batch is ran. Any changes in circumstances that the agency is notified of (i.e., loss of SSI recipient status or Medicare Part A entitlement) shall continue under their current established process, where an SDX task is generated, and the worker takes action accordingly based on the task.

### **C. MSP/QMB – Administrative Review After Review Batch Fallout**

There may be situations where the consumer’s MSP/QMB coverage may discontinue for various reasons. However, these cases should continue to be administratively reviewed to determine if the individual’s MSP/QMB can be redetermined. It is not necessary to request an application form for this purpose, but the “RE” run reason must be used when running EDBC. It is important to spend time reviewing the case to determine if there are any data quality issues preventing EDBC from executing.

Regardless of the outcome, a notice must be sent to the consumer informing of ongoing eligibility. A notice is not produced as a result of a Read-Only EDBC, so the worker is responsible for ensuring the notice is sent following the completion of the review.

A report of all SSI recipients whose MSP/QMB did not meet the passive review criteria (resulted in a pre-populated review being sent) will be generated for eligibility staff to complete the administrative review. Any individual whose MSP/QMB coverage was discontinued during the Review Discontinuance batch must be reviewed before the first day of the next month. The KDHE Standard Copy & Paste (SCP) spreadsheet has been updated to include a new append on the Elderly & Disabled tab that should be added to the MSP/QMB approval notice generated by KEES, advising that the pre-populated review was sent in error and that no further action from them is required.

Note: If it is discovered, during the administrative review processing, that the individual is not a current SSI recipient, staff should refer to the policies referenced in [PM2018-10-01](#) – Loss of SSI Recipient Status and Verification of Resources.

For questions or concerns related to this document, please contact the KDHE Medical Policy Staff at [KDHE.MedicaidEligibilityPolicy@ks.gov](mailto:KDHE.MedicaidEligibilityPolicy@ks.gov).

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Questions regarding any KEES issues are directed to the KEES Help Desk at [KEES.HelpDesk@ks.gov](mailto:KEES.HelpDesk@ks.gov).