

**TO:** Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

**FROM:** Betty Rice, Director, Division of Consumer and Local District Relations

**SUBJECT:** Revised Federal Poverty Levels for January 1, 2003

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2003

**CONTACT PERSON:** Bureau of Local District Support Unit 518-474-8216 Upstate  
212-268-6855 NYC

This is to inform social services districts of revised federal poverty levels effective immediately. The estimated federal poverty levels sent to you in 2002 were effective January 1, 2003 pending the actual poverty levels to be published in the Federal Register in 2003. The Department implements the estimated levels to ensure more stable periods of eligibility. However, the actual annual federal poverty line is \$50 lower (\$4.00 monthly) than the estimated poverty line. The actual poverty levels are effective for all new applications and recertifications retroactive to January 1, 2003.

For all new applications, the income must be compared to the revised federal poverty levels. A chart with the new poverty levels is attached to this GIS. This chart should be given to every eligibility worker. New applications which have income above the applicable poverty level may, consistent with case processing timeframes, be held until the revised poverty levels are available on MBL, with an effective From Date of January 1. The revised poverty levels will be available on production Upstate on Monday, March 24, 2003, and, in New York City, on Monday, March 31, 2003.

Undercare cases do not need to be rebudgeted using the new poverty levels until next recertification or next client contact. At recertification, a small number of cases with income slightly below the estimated poverty line may lose full Medical Assistance eligibility. Those individuals whose eligibility may be affected are:

Children under 19	Qualified Individuals QI-1
Pregnant Women	Infants
Qualified COBRA	Persons eligible for AIDS Health Insurance Program
Continuation Beneficiaries	Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals
Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries	
Specified Low Income Beneficiaries	

Social services districts should revise the "Notice to Potential Qualifying COBRA Continuation Beneficiaries" for one and two person households to reflect the January 1, 2003 change in the federal poverty level to \$749 for an individual and \$1,010 for a couple. For other notices, usual procedures apply.

In calculating the family member allowance, social services districts must use \$1,515 (150% of the federal poverty level for a family of two, divided by twelve) instead of \$1,522. If the family member has no otherwise available income, the family member allowance is \$505.

Please direct any questions to your local district liaison.

Medicaid-Only, (Annual and **Monthly**) Income and Resource Standards  
and Federal Poverty Lines Effective January 2003

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	SEVEN	EIGHT	EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON
MA INCOME	7700 642	11200 934	11300 942	11400 950	11900 992	13600 1134	15300 1275	17000 1417	+1700 +142
100% FPL	8980 749	12120 1010	15260 1272	18400 1534	21540 1795	24680 2057	27820 2319	30960 2580	+3140 +262
120% FPL	10776 898	14544 1212							
133% FPL	11944 996	16120 1344	20296 1692	24472 2040	28649 2388	32825 2736	37001 3084	41177 3432	+4177 +349
135% FPL	12123 1011	16362 1364							+4239 +354
150% FPL	13470 1123	18180 1515	22890 1908	27600 2300	32310 2693	37020 3085	41730 3478	46440 3870	+4710 +393
185% FPL	16613 1385	22422 1869	28231 2353	34040 2837	39849 3321	45658 3805	51467 4289	57276 4773	+5809 +485
200% FPL	17960 1497	24240 2020	30520 2544	36800 3067	43080 3590	49360 4114	55640 4637	61920 5160	+6280 +524
250% FPL	22450 1871	30300 2525	38150 3180	46000 3834	53850 4488	61700 5142	69550 5796	77400 6450	+7850 +655
RESOURCES (ASSETS)	3850	5600	5650	5700	5950	6800	7650	8500	+850