Policy Clarifications - Medicaid - Long Term Care
PMN16283468

Submitted: 07/12   **Agency: CAOs**

Citations:

Subject: Entry and Expiration of the Home Maintenance Deduction (HMD) in Long-Term Care (LTC) Cases

When does the HMD begin and end? What information should be entered in the HMD fields in the Client Information System (CIS) and eCIS when authorizing an LTC case with an HMD? When does an alert need to be set to terminate the HMD? What is the correct process for terminating the HMD?

Response By: Division of Health Services   **Date:07/26/12**

When a physician verifies on the Medical Evaluation form (MA 51) that an LTC applicant is expected to return to the community within 180 days and the CAO receives verification that the applicant is responsible to pay shelter or utility costs then the individual may be eligible for an HMD.

The six-month period of eligibility for the HMD begins the calendar month in which the physician certifies on the MA 51 that the individual will be leaving the LTC facility within six months. The HMD usually runs for six months from the date the individual entered the LTC facility. The HMD end date is NOT necessarily six months from the requested effective date. Because the cost of care is determined monthly, the effective date of the HMD entered in CIS or eCIS should be the last day of the calendar month in which the HMD is expected to end.

To authorize a case with an HMD a 'Y' must be entered on the Long Term Care screen in CIS or the Long Term Living screen in eCIS to verify the individual is eligible for the HMD and certified to return to the community. The expected date of return to the community must be entered as the last day of the sixth calendar month from the date the physician certified a short-term stay.

Example: Mr. A entered the LTC facility on 8/20/12. The physician signed the MA 51 on 8/20/12 verifying Mr. A is expected to return to the community within six months. Mr. A verified he pays shelter and utility costs. The requested effective date for payment of LTC facility services to begin is 10/10/12. The effective date of the HMD entered in the effective date field in the system is 1/31/13, the last day of the sixth calendar month from the date the physician certified a short-term stay.

If the CAO receives verification that the LTC recipient is no longer responsible for shelter or utility costs while the HMD is in effect, then the CAO must terminate the HMD in the system. A LTC recipient is no longer eligible for the HMD the month after responsibility for shelter and utility costs ends.

Alert 215 will usually be set when an LTC facility case is authorized with an HMD. Alert 215 will not be set when an LTC case is authorized within 60 days of the date the HMD is expected to end. In these cases, the CAO must manually set the alert.

Because the cost of care will increase when the HMD ends, proper 15 day advance notice must be provided. Advance notice must expire the month after the HMD is set to end. It is important to process the expiration of the HMD timely. If not processed timely the LTC recipient could lose a month of HMD eligibility or an overpayment may need to be processed.

Example: Mr. B was authorized for payment of LTC facility services with an HMD that is expected to end on 7/31/12. In order to process termination of the HMD correctly, the HMD must be ended and eligibility run between 7/17/12 and 8/16/12 so that advance notice ends in the month of August. If run prior to 7/17/12 the last month the HMD will be given is June because advance notice ends in July. If run after 8/16/12 then advance notice ends in September so the HMD will incorrectly be given for August.

To terminate the HMD in CIS:

1.   On CAMLTC, the Long Term Care screen, remove the HMD effective date. Enter an 'N' to designate that the individual is no longer eligible for the HMD and is not certified to return to the community.

2.   Transmit through the case to run EDBC.

3.   Process an overpayment as needed.

To terminate the HMD in eCIS:

1.   Through maintenance, access the Long Term Living screen.

2.   On the Long Term Living screen, remove the HMD effective date. Enter an 'N' to designate that the individual is no longer eligible for the HMD and is not certified to return to the community.

3.   Run eligibility.

4.   Process an overpayment as needed.

Please continue to review the expired HMD report, ARQ506R01found on DocuShare.