**Policy Clarifications**

**Medicaid – All**

**PMW-19716-316**

**Submitted: 1/7/2020 Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD) Presumptive Eligibility**

**Questions**: 1. Can presumptive eligibility for MAWD be authorized as long as the applicant provides some type of information about the disability?

2. Can presumptive MAWD be authorized for retroactive months?

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| **Response By: Division of Health Services Date:** |  |

1. Yes. If the County Assistance Office (CAO) receives some type of disability information and all other conditions of eligibility are met, the CAO will authorize ongoing presumptive MAWD without delay. Disability information may be provided verbally or in a written format and can come from various sources. Examples of these sources include, but are not limited to:
* Employability Assessment Form (PA 1663)
* Health-Sustaining Medication Assessment Form (PA 1671)
* A caretaker
* A medical provider
* A Mental Health or Intellectual Disability Agency
* A Center for Independent Living (CIL)
* An agency that serves the applicant, such as the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)

After presumptive eligibility is authorized, the CAO will request proof of the disability to complete a Medical Review Team (MRT) referral. The initial ongoing presumptive eligibility period is three months from the date of authorization. It may be extended an additional three months if more medical information is needed for the MRT review.

1. Yes. The CAO may authorize presumptive MAWD in the retroactive period as long as the MAWD premium is paid for the presumptive month(s) before authorization and the individual is otherwise eligible.

**EXAMPLE:** The CAO receives an application for MAWD in April. Disability information from a medical source is provided. The applicant also provides medical expenses for January, February and March and requests coverage for each of these months. The CAO will authorize ongoing presumptive MAWD with an April 1st start date. A review of each retroactive month will be completed to determine if all conditions of eligibility are met. The CAO will provide the Initial Premium Statement ([PA 1755](http://services.dpw.state.pa.us/oimpolicymanuals/ma/PA_1755_with_form_fields_1.pdf)) to the applicant listing each eligible month in the retroactive months. The premium amount for each of these months will be provided on this form and must be paid before the retroactive authorization. Retroactive and ongoing monthly premiums will be included in the same initial premium statement.

This Policy Clarification obsoletes PMW 18270-316.