

**NUMBER**  
#25-21-01

**DATE**  
February 3, 2025

**OF INTEREST TO**  
County Directors

Social Services Supervisors and  
Staff

Financial Assistance Supervisors  
and Workers

Tribal Chairpersons and Tribal  
Health Directors

Navigators, Certified  
Application Counselors and  
Brokers

**ACTION/DUE DATE**

Please read and implement on  
February 1, 2025

**EXPIRATION DATE**

February 3, 2027

## DHS Simplifies Certain Requirements for Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD)

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### TOPIC

Changes to certain MA-EPD requirements

### PURPOSE

This bulletin describes changes to MA-EPD eligibility policies related to six-month income reviews, proof of wages, and timeline for MA-EPD enrollees to report changes.

### CONTACT

Counties and tribal agencies should submit policy questions via HealthQuest. All others should direct questions to:

Health Care Eligibility and Access Division  
PO Box 64989  
540 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0989

### SIGNED



JOHN CONNOLLY  
Assistant Commissioner  
Health Care Administration

### TERMINOLOGY NOTICE

The terminology used to describe people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

## I. Background

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Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD) is a work incentive health care program that provides Medical Assistance (MA) coverage to employed people determined to have a disability by the Social Security Administration or the State Medical Review Team. To qualify for MA-EPD, a person must work and have earned income greater than \$65 per month. Most MA-EPD enrollees must pay a monthly premium. See the Eligibility Policy Manual (EPM) [Section 2.3.5 MA for Employed Persons with Disabilities](#) for more information.

Prior to this bulletin, MA-EPD enrollees were required to submit proof of their income every six months. Eligibility workers used the six-month reports to recalculate the enrollee's MA-EPD premium amounts.

Also, MA-EPD applicants and enrollees with wages needed to have Medicare, Social Security, and applicable state and federal taxes withheld from those earnings for it to be considered earned income. In addition, MA-EPD applicants and enrollees were required to report changes in circumstances within 10 days.

In 2024, the Minnesota Legislature enacted changes to these policies.

## II. MA-EPD Policy Changes Effective February 1, 2025

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The following MA-EPD policy changes are effective February 1, 2025.

### A. Elimination of the Six-Month Income Review

MA-EPD enrollees are no longer required to complete and submit a six-month income review. As a result, MA-EPD premiums will no longer be recalculated every six months. MA-EPD enrollees will still have an annual renewal. Eligibility workers must recalculate MA-EPD premiums at annual renewal for a six-month budget period, and that premium amount continues for the remainder of the certification period, months 7 through 12.

In between annual renewals, workers must recalculate MA-EPD premiums when:

- An enrollee reports a change that results in a decreased premium. The decreased premium is effective the first day of the month after the change is reported.
- The Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) are increased in January of each year.
- Social Security Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance (RSDI) benefits are increased and the RSDI cost of living adjustment (COLA) disregard ends, effective July 1 each year.

There are no other changes to MA-EPD premium policies or procedures, including when premiums are billed, when they are due, and when eligibility ends for failure to pay a premium. See EPM [Section 2.3.5.1.2 MA-EPD Premiums](#) for more information.

## B. Proof of Wage Income

MA-EPD applicants and enrollees who receive a wage must provide proof of those earnings, but it does not need to show that Medicare, Social Security and applicable state and federal taxes are being withheld. They still must earn more than \$65 per month.

People who are self-employed must continue to file a tax return and pay all applicable taxes, and they must provide proof that those taxes are being paid.

## C. Increased Time to Report Changes in Circumstance

MA-EPD enrollees must report changes in circumstances that could affect eligibility, such as changes in income, a job ending or changes in Minnesota residency, within 30 days of the change.

The time period for reporting changes for other Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) remains at within 10 days. An MA-EPD enrollee who is also enrolled in a Medicare Savings Program (MSP), must continue to report changes that may affect their MSP eligibility within 10 days.

## III. Action Required

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County and tribal eligibility workers must follow the policies outlined in this bulletin.

## IV. Legal Authority

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Laws of Minnesota 2024, Chapter 108, Article 1, Section 11

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory**

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling 651-297-3862 or toll free at 800-657-3672 or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.