AFDC-MN Medi-Cal

For Children, Parents, and Caretaker Relatives

Medi-Cal Summary

Non-Financial Eligibility Requirements	**This program covers children under age 21 and some parents and caretaker relatives.** Children not meeting deprivation requirements or other non-financial requirements of the former AFDC program are labeled as Medically Indigent ("MI"), but otherwise are treated as if they were AFDC-MN. Such children include 20 year olds and most 19 year olds. **Deprivation**. For a parent or caretaker relative to qualify, their child must be "deprived" of parental support. That is, at least one of the child's parents must be absent, deceased, incapacitated or unemployed. A principal wage earner (PWE) parent working 100 hours or more in a month is not considered unemployed , unless the parent(s)'/spouses' countable income is less than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The PWE is the parent who, in the 24 months prior to the date of application or redetermination, earned the most. * **Practice note**: If a family is terminated from AFDC-MN because a parent works 100 hours or more a month, check to see if they could have been eligible for Medi-Cal through 1931(b). 1931(b) recipient parents can work more than 100 hours a month, even with family income above 100% FPL. * **Children** are eligible for AFDC-MN based on age, without any deprivation requirements. A child's earned income is exempt when determining whether the principal wage earner is unemployed under the 100 hour rule.
Beneficiary Costs and Income Limits	**Medi-Cal with no Share of Cost.** Beneficiaries qualify with no Share of Cost (SOC) if their countable income is at or below the Maintenance Need Level (MNL) for a household of their size. (See income sheet.) * **Practice note**: If a family's earnings bar Medi-Cal without SOC under AFDC-MN, see if they could qualify for 1931(b). Recipients of 1931(b) have much more generous earned income deductions, giving families free Medi-Cal at higher gross income levels. **Share of Cost Medi-Cal.** Beneficiaries with a countable income above the MNL have a SOC. After they incur medical expenses that reduce their monthly household income to the MNL, Medi-Cal covers their health costs for the remainder of the month. **Example**: A family of 3 has $1000 in countable monthly income and an MNL of $934 a month. The family has a $66 SOC; that is, the family must incur $66 in medical expenses before Medi-Cal begins each month of coverage. **Continued on next page ►**

<table>
<tr><td>Monthly Income Deductions</td><td>The following monthly deductions apply to determine countable income:

$90 in earned income, per worker
Dependent care costs (which are subtracted from earned income; maximum $200 per child under 2 years; maximum $175 if older child or disabled)
Court-ordered child or spousal support paid by the beneficiary
$50 in child or spousal support received by the beneficiary
Education expenses (including tuition, books, fees, supplies, travel, child care)
Health insurance premiums
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<tr><td>Property Limits</td><td>
Exempt property includes a home, one car, clothing and certain other items.
The maximum value of non-exempt property, based on family size, is as follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Family Size</th><th>Property Limit</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>$2000</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>$3000</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>$3150</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>$3300</td></tr>
<tr><td>Each Additional Person</td><td>Add $150</td></tr>
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</td></tr>
<tr><td>Special Factors</td><td>To meet share of cost obligations, families may use:

Bills paid during the month or the three previous months
Unpaid bills, no matter how old, so long as they are current legal obligations. They may be used during one month or spread out over several months. They may even be bills of other family members.
Health insurance premiums or cost-sharing amounts
Any incurred health care cost recognized under state law, even if Medi-Cal would never cover services of that type.
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Moving from AFDC-MN to TMC</td><td>Families losing no share of cost AFDC-MN because of earnings do not qualify for Transitional Medi-Cal (“TMC”), which lasts up to 12 months. However, if a AFDC-MN family should have been receiving Section 1931(b) instead, the family <u>does</u> qualify for TMC.

Example: The Jones family received AFDC-MN from January 1998 through January 1999. Because of increased earnings, they lost Medi-Cal in February 1999. As they were receiving AFDC-MN rather than 1931(b) or CalWORKs, the county did not even consider the family for TMC. In fact, from October through December 1998, the family qualified for 1931(b). The Jones’ should get TMC since, during three of the six months before they lost Medi-Cal due to increased earnings, they were eligible for 1931(b).</td></tr>
<tr><td>AFDC-MN and 1931(b)</td><td>Given a choice between these categories, families are better off as 1931(b) recipients, for several reasons. The income deductions are more generous; recipient parents can work 100 or more hours a month, even with family income above 100% FPL (the AFDC-MN families also can work more than 100 hours, but their family income has to be below 100% FPL); a one-person household qualifies with property worth up to $3,000, not $2,000; and as a practical matter, TMC is easier to get.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Aid Codes</td><td>
Children classified as MI: 82 for no SOC, 83 for SOC
AFDC-MN: 34 for no SOC, 37 for SOC
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